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TO THE PROCEEDINGS OF THE MADRAS LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

FIRST SESSION OF THE THIRD LEGISLATIVE
COUNCIL

1st to 31st March 1927.

Volume XXXV

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PERSONNEL OF THE GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

Governor of Madras.

His Excellency the Rt. Hon. *Viscount* GOSCHEN OF HAWKHURST, G.C.I.E., C.B.E. Took his seat on 14th April 1924.

Members of the Executive Council.

1. The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR, K.C.I.E., Law Member. Took his seat on 12th February 1923 and is in charge of the following portfolios :—

Civil Justice.
Criminal Justice (including petitions for mercy).
Elections.
Electricity (including hydro-electric schemes).
Foreigners.
Fortnightly report.
Irrigation.
Landlord and tenant.
Legislative.
Magistracy.

Marine (Central subject).
Miscellaneous Judicial heads.
Passports.
Police including Criminal Investigation Department.
Press and registration of books.
Publicity including Editors' Table.
Railways.
Report on matters of political and administrative importance.
State prisoners.
Translators to Government.

2. The hon. Mr. N. E. MARJORIBANKS, C.S.I., C.I.E., I.C.S., Member in charge of Revenue. Took his seat on 27th December 1924 and is in charge of the following portfolios :—

Agency.
Constitution of districts, divisions and taluks.
Court of Wards.
Economic condition (including prices and wages).
Escheats.
Famine.
General (i.e., questions of a general nature which cannot be allocated to any particular department).
Government Servants' Conduct Rules.
Indian Civil Service—Questions other than leave and appointments.

Land Revenue, Survey and Settlement.
Mines.
Office procedure.
Petition rules—General questions.
Pounds and special funds.
Public Service Commission and service questions including examinations and special tests and land returns.
Reforms—not being legislative.
Treasure trove.
Warrant of precedence.
Wild animals.
Yeomias, inams and hereditary pensions.

3. The hon. Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur, Home Member. Took his seat on the 30th March 1925 and is in charge of the following portfolios :—

Administration report.
Air-craft.
Arms and explosives.
Boilers.
Census.
Certificate of age and qualification.
Criminal Tribes.
Depressed classes.
Emigration.
Forests (including cinchona).
Government Houses.
Jails.
Labour (including factories).

Laccadives.
Pilgrims to the Hedjaz.
Reformatories.
Regulation of medical and other professional qualifications and standards.
Rewards for saving life and property.
Staff and household of His Excellency the Governor.
Stamps.
Stationery and Government Presses.

4. The hon. Mr. T. E. MOIR, C.S.I., C.I.F., I.C.S., Finance Member. Took his seat on 27th April 1925 and is in charge of the following portfolios :—

Central Subjects—
Archæology and Epigraphy.
Customs (including trade).
Ecclesiastical.
Income-tax.
Meteorology.
Opium.
Political (other than matters relating to Indian States).

Central Subjects—*cont.*
Post Office.
Salt.
Telegraphs and telephones.
European education.
Finance.
Military.
Move of Government to the Hills.
Pensions.

Ministers.

1. The hon. Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN. Took his seat on 4th December 1926 and is in charge of the following portfolios :—

Education other than European and Anglo-Indian education
Libraries, Museums and Zoological Gardens.

Light and feeder Railways and Tramways within municipal areas.
Local Self-Government.

2. The hon. Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR. Took his seat on 4th December 1926 and is in charge of the following portfolios :—

Agriculture.
Civil Veterinary department.
Co-operative Societies.
Development of industries.

Public Works (buildings, roads, ferries, ropeways, etc.).
Registration.
Religious and Charitable Endowments.

3. The hon. Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR. Took his seat on 4th December 1926 and is in charge of the following portfolios :—

Adulteration of foodstuffs and other articles.
Exoise.
Fisheries.
Medical administration.

Pilgrimages within British India.
Public health and sanitation and vital statistics.
Weights and Measures.

PRINCIPAL OFFICERS OF THE MADRAS LEGISLATIVE
COUNCIL.

President.

The hon. Rao Bahadur C. V. S. NARASIMHA RAJU Garu, B.A., B.L.

Deputy President.

Dr. (Mrs.) S. MUTHULAKSHMI REDDI.

Panel of Chairmen.

Mr. J. A. SALDANHA.

Diwan Bahadur M. KRISHNAN NAYAR.

Sir ALEXANDER MACDOUGALL.

Mr. ABBAS ALI.

Secretary to the Council.

M.R.Ry. Rao Bahadur R. V. KRISHNA AYYAR Avargal, B.A., M.L.

Assistant Secretary to the Council.

M.R.Ry. C. SATAGOPA ACHARIYAR Avargal, B.A.

ALPHABETICAL LIST OF MEMBERS OF THE MADRAS LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

Name of member.	Name and class of constituency.
1. Abbas Ali Khan Bahadur, Bar.-at-Law.	Madura and Trichinopoly <i>cum</i> Srirangam, Muhammadan Urban.
2. Abdul Hamid Khan Sahib Bahadur.	Madras City, Muhammadan Urban.
3. Abdul Hye Sahib Bahadur, K.	Ceded Districts, Muhammadan Rural.
4. Abdul Razack Sahib Bahadur, Khan Bahadur S. K.	North Arcot <i>cum</i> Chingleput, Muhammadan Rural.
5. Abdul Wahab Sahib Bahadur, Munshi.	Northern Circars, Muhammadan Rural.
6. Adinarayana Chettiyar, Bar.-at-Law, T.	North Arcot, N.-M. Rural.
7. Anjaneyulu, P.	Guntur, N.-M. Rural.
8. Appavu Chettiyar, C. D. ...	Salem, N.-M. Rural.
9. Ari Gowder, H. B.	The Nilgiris, N.-M. Rural.
10. Arogyaswami Mudaliyar. The hon. Diwan Bahadur R. N. (Minister).	Central Districts (Indian Christian).
11. Arpudaswami Udayar, S. ...	Tanjore and Trichinopoly <i>cum</i> Madura (Christian).
12. Basheer Ahmad Sayeed Sahib Bahadur.	Central Districts, Muhammadan Rural.
13. Bazl-ul-lah Sahib Bahadur, c.i.e., c.b.e., Khan Bahadur Muhammad.	NOMINATED.
14. Bhaktavatsulu Nayudu, P. ...	Madras City, N.-M. Urban.
15. Bhanoji Rao, A. V.	Vizagapatam City, N.-M. Urban.
16. Bheemayya, J.	NOMINATED.
17. Biswanath Das Mahasayo, Sriman.	Ganjam, N.-M. Rural.
18. Boag, I.C.S., G. T.	NOMINATED.
19. Chidambaranatha Mudaliyar, T. K.	Tinnevelly, N.-M. Rural.
20. Congreve, C. R. T.	Madras Planters—Planting.
21. Cotterell, c.i.e., I.C.S., C. B. ...	NOMINATED.
22. Davis, J. A.	Anglo-Indian.
23. Dorai Raja, S. N.	NOMINATED.
24. Ellappa Chettiyar, Rao Sahib S.	Salem, N.-M. Rural.
25. Ethirajulu Nayudu, Diwan Bahadur P. O.	Guntur, N.-M. Rural.
26. Gangadhara Siva, M. V.	NOMINATED.
27. Gopala Menon, C.	Southern India Chamber of Commerce.
28. Govindaraja Mudaliyar, C. S. ...	Madras City, N.-M. Urban.
29. Guruswami, Rao Sahib L. C. ...	NOMINATED.
30. Hall, o.b.e., I.C.S., J. F.	NOMINATED.
31. Hampayya, Rai Sahib M.	NOMINATED.
32. Harisarvottama Rao, G.	Kurnool, N.-M. Rural.
33. Hearson, H. F. P.	Madras Chamber of Commerce.
34. John, V. Ch.	Northern Districts (Indian Christian).

Name of member.	Name and class of constituency
35. Kaleswara Rao, ...	Kistna, N.-M. Rural.
36. Kameswara Rao Nayudu	Ganjam, N.-M. Rural.
37. Karant, K. R.	South Kanara, N.-M. Rural.
38. Khadir Mohidin Sahib Bahadur, Muhammad.	East Coast, Muhammadan Rural.
39. Koti Reddi, Bar.-at-Law, K. ..	Cuddapah, N.-M. Rural.
40. Krishnan, K.	NOMINATED
41. Krishnan Nayar, Diwan Bahadur M.	Malabar, N.-M. Rural.
42. Krishnaswami Nayakar, K. ...	Chingleput, N.-M. Rural.
43. Kumara Raja of Venkatagiri (Raja Velugoti Sarvagnya Kumara Krishnayachendra Bahadur Varu).	Nellore, N.-M. Rural.
44. Kumaraswami Reddiyar, Diwan Bahadur S.	Tinnevelly, N.-M. Rural.
45. Kuppaswami, J.	Guntur, N.-M. Rural.
46. MacDougall, Kt., Sir Alexander.	European.
47. Madhavan Nayar, K.	Malabar, N.-M. Rural
48. Mallayya, B. S.	Madras City, N.-M. Urban.
49. Manikkavelu Nayakar, M. A. ...	North Arcot, N.-M. Rural.
50. Marjoribanks, c.s.i., c.i.e., I.C.S., The hon. Mr. N. E.	EX OFFICIO.
51. Marudavanam Pillai, C. ...	Tanjore, N.-M. Rural.
52. Meera Ravuttar Bahadur, K. P. V. S. Muhammad.	Madura cum Trichinopoly, Muham- madan Rural.
53. Moidoo Sahib Bahadur, T. M....	Malabar, Muhammadan Rural.
54. Moir, c.s.i., c.i.e., I.C.S., The hon. Mr. T. E.	EX OFFICIO.
55. Moore, c.i.e., I.C.S., Mr. P. L.	NOMINATED.
56. Muniswami Nayudu, Rao Bahadur B.	Chittoor N.-M. Rural.
57. Muniswami Pillai, V. I. ...	NOMINATED.
58. Muppil Nayar of Kavalappara alias Kumaran Raman.	West Coast Landholders.
59. Murugappa Chettiyar, Diwan Bahadur A. M. M.	Ramnad, N.-M. Rural.
60. Muthia Mudaliyar, S.	Tanjore, N.-M. Rural.
61. Muthulakshmi Ammal, Dr. (Mrs.).	NOMINATED.
62. Muthuranga Mudaliyar, C. N.	Chingleput, N.-M. Rural.
63. Nagan Gowda, R.	NOMINATED.
64. Nanjappah Bahadur, Subadar Major S. A.	NOMINATED.
65. Narasimha Raju, Rao Bahadur C. V. S. (President).	Vizagapatam, N.-M. Rural.
66. Narayana Raju	Godavari West, N.-M. Rural.
67. Narayana Rao	Godavari West, N.-M. Rural.
68. Narayana Reddi	Anantapur, N.-M. Rural.
69. Narayanan Chettiyar, Al. Ar. ...	Nattukkottai Nagarathars' Associa- tion.
70. Narayanan Nambudiripad, Rao Bahadur O. M.	NOMINATED.

Name of member.	Name and class of constituency.
71. Narayanaswami Pillai, T. M. ...	Trichinopoly, N.-M. Rural.
72. Obi Reddi	Aantapur, N.-M. Rural.
73. Pandrang Rao, I.C.S., V. ...	NOMINATED.
74. Parasurama Rao Pantulu ...	Cuddapah, N.-M. Rural.
75. Parthasarathi Ayyangar, C. R.	Chittoor, N.-M. Rural.
76. Patro, Kt., Rao Bahadur Sir A. P.	Ganjam, N.-M. Rural.
77. Premayya, G.	NOMINATED.
78. Raja of Jeypore (Maharaja Sri Ramachandra Deo).	NOMINATED.
79. Raja of Panagal, K.C.I.E. (Sir P. Ramarayaningar).	North Central Landholders.
80. Raja of Ramnad (Bhaskara Rajarajeswara Setupathi <i>alias</i> Muthiramalinga Setupathi).	South Central Landholders.
81. Rajan, P. T.	Madura, N.-M. Rural.
82. Ramachandra Padayachi, K. ...	South Arcot N.-M. Rural.
83. Ramachandra Reddi, B. ...	Nellore, N.-M. Rural.
84. Ramanath Goenka	NOMINATED.
85. Ramasomayajulu	Cocanada City, N.-M. Urban.
86. Ramaswami Ayyar, K.C.I.E., The hon. Sir C. P.	EX OFFICIO.
87. Ramaswami Ayyar, U. ...	Trichinopoly <i>cum</i> Srirangam, N.-M. Urban.
88. Ranganatha Mudaliyar, The hon. Mr. A. (<i>Minister</i>).	Bellary, N.-M. Rural.
89. Ratnasabapathi Mudaliyar, Rao Bahadur C. S.	Coimbatore, N.-M. Rural.
90. Sahajanandam, Swami	NOMINATED.
91. Saldanha, J. A.	West Coast, Indian Christian.
92. Sami Venkatachalam Chetti ...	Madras, N.-M. Urban.
93. Sarabha Reddi, K.	Kurnool, N.-M. Rural.
94. Satyamurti, S.	Madras University.
95. Schamnad Sahib Bahadur, Mahmud.	South Kanara, Muhammadan Rural.
96. Seturatnam Ayyar, M. R. ...	Trichinopoly, N.-M. Rural.
97. Shetty, A. B.	South Kanara, N.-M. Rural.
98. Sitarama Reddi, Rao Bahadur K.	South Arcot, N.-M. Rural.
99. Siva Raj, B.A., B.L., N.	NOMINATED.
100. Siva Rao, P.	Bellary, N.-M. Rural.
101. Sivasubrahmanya Ayyar, K. S.	Tanjore, N.-M. Rural.
102. Slater, C.I.E., I.C.S., S. H. ...	NOMINATED.
103. Smith, J. Mackenzie	Madras Trades Association.
104. Soundara Pandia Nadar, W. P. A.	NOMINATED.
105. Srinivasa Ayyangar, R. ...	South Arcot, N.-M. Rural.
106. Srinivasa Ayyangar, T. C. ...	Ramnad, N.-M. Rural.
107. Srinivasan, Rao Sahib R. ...	NOMINATED.
108. Subbarayan, The hon. Dr. P. (Zamindar of Kumara- mangalam) (<i>Minister</i>).	South Central Landholders.
109. Subrahmanya Moopanar, S. ...	NOMINATED.

Name of member.	Name and class of constituency.
110. Subrahmanya Pillai, Chavadi K.	Tinnevelly <i>cum</i> Palamcottah, N.-M. Urban.
111. Sundaramurti Pillai, Rao Sahib P. V. S.	NOMINATED.
112. Swami, Bar.-at-Law, K. V. R.	East Godavari, N.-M. Rural.
113. Syed Ibrahim Sahib Bahadur, Nattam Dubash Kadir Sahib.	Ramnad <i>cum</i> Tinnevelly, Muhammadan Rural.
114. Tajudin Sahib Bahadur, Syed ...	Tanjore, Muhammadan Rural.
115. Thomas, Daniel	Ramnad <i>cum</i> Tinnevelly, Indian Christian.
116. Tireman, C.I.E., H.	NOMINATED.
117. Tulasiram, L. K.	Madura City, N.-M. Urban.
118. Uppi Sahib Bahadur, K.	Malabar, Muhammadan.
119. Usman Sahib Bahadur, The hon. Khan Bahadur Muhammad.	EX OFFICIO.
120. Vanavudia Goundar, S. V.	Coimbatore, N.-M. Rural.
121. Venkatapati Raju, P. C.	Vizagapatam, N.-M. Rural.
122. Venkatarama Ayyar, K. R.	Madura, N.-M. Rural.
123. Venkatarama Sastriyar, C.I.E., T. R. (<i>Advocate-General</i>).	NOMINATED.
124. Venkataramana Ayyangar, C. V.	Coimbatore, N.-M. Rural.
125. Venkatarangam Nayudu, C.	North Arcot, N.-M. Rural.
126. Venkataratnam, B.	East Godavari, N.-M. Rural.
127. Venkiah, S.	NOMINATED.
128. Wood, C. E.	Madras Chamber of Commerce
129. Zamindar of Gollapalli (Srimannarayana Appa Rao Bahadur Garu, Meka).	Northern Landholders, II.
130. Zamindar of Kallikota (Sri Ramachandra Mardaraja Deo).	Northern Landholders, I.
131. Zamindar of Mirzapuram (Mirzapuram Raja Garu alias Venkataramayya Appa Rao Bahadur Garu).	Kistna, N.-M. Rural
132. Zamindar of Seithur (Vadamalai Tiruvanatha Sevuga Pandiya Tevar Avargal).	Madura, N.-M. Rural

SPECIAL MEMBERS.

133. Hawley, M.S.C., F.I.C., Herbert.	NOMINATED.
134. Russell, C.B.E., I.M.S., Major A. J. H.	NOMINATED.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE MADRAS LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

OFFICIAL REPORT.

First Session of the Third Legislative Council under the Government of India Act.

VOLUME XXXV

Monday, the 14th March 1927.

The House met at 11 o'clock, Mr. President (the hon. Rao Bahadur C. V. S. NARASIMHA RAJU Garu) in the chair.

PRESENT :

Marjoribanks, C.S.I., C.I.E., The hon. Mr. N. E.
 Usman Sahib Bahadur, The hon. Khan Bahadur Muhammad.
 Moir, C.S.I., C.I.E., The hon. Mr. T. E.
 Subharayan, The hon. Dr. P.
 Ranganatha Mudaliyar, The hon. Mr. A.
 Arogyaswami Mudaliyar, The hon. Diwan Bahadur R. N.
 Adinarayana Chettiyar, Mr. T.
 Anjaneyulu, Mr. P.
 Ari Gowder, Mr. H. B.
 Arpudaswami Udayar, Mr. S.
 Basheer Ahmad Sayeed Sahib Bahadur
 Bazul-ul-lah Sahib Bahadur, C.I.E., C.B.E.,
 Khen Bahadur Muhammad.
 Bhaktavatsulu Nayudu, Mr. P.
 Bheemayya, Mr. J.
 Biswanath Das Mahasayo, Sriman.
 Boag, Mr. G. T.
 Chidambaramatha Mudaliyar, Mr. T. K.
 Congreve, Mr. C. R. T.
 Cotterell, C.I.E., Mr. C. B.
 Dorai Raja, Mr. S. N.
 Ellappa Chettiyar, Rao Sahib S.
 Ethirajulu Nayudu, Diwan Bahadur P. C.
 Gangadhara Siva, Mr. M. V.
 Gopala Menon, Mr. C.
 Govindaraja Mudaliyar, Mr. C. S.
 Guruswami, Rao Sahib L. C.
 Hall, C.B.E., Mr. J. F.
 Hamid Khan Sahib Bahadur, Abdul.
 Harisarvottama Rao, Mr. G.
 John, Mr. V. Ch.
 Kaleswara Rao, Mr. A.
 Kameswara Rao Nayudu, Mr. V.
 Kurant, Mr. K. R.
 Khadir Mohidin Sahib Bahadur, Muhammad.
 Koti Reddi, Mr. K.
 Krishnan Nayar, Diwan Bahadur M.
 Krishnaswami Nayakar, Mr. K. V.
 Kumara Raja of Venkatagiri.
 Kumaraswami Reddiyar, Diwan Bahadur S.

MacDougall, Kt., Sir Alexander.
 Madhavan Nayar, Mr. K.
 Mahmud Sohamnad Sahib Bahadur.
 Mallayya, Mr. B. S.
 Manikkavelu Nayakar, Mr. M. A.
 Meera Ravuttar Bahadur, K. P. V. S.
 Muhammad.
 Moore, C.I.E., Mr. P. L.
 Muniswami Nayudu, Rao Bahadur B.
 Muppil Nayar of Kavalappara, Mr.
 Muttayya Mudaliyar, Mr. S.
 Muthalakshmi Reddi, Dr. (Mrs.).
 Muthuranga Mudaliyar, Mr. C. N.
 Nagan Gowda, Mr. R.
 Nanjappa Bahadur, M.V.O., Subadar-Major S. A.
 Narayana Raju, Mr. D.
 Narayana Reddi, Mr. C. B.
 Narayanan Chettiyar, Mr. Al. Ar.
 Obi Reddi, Mr. C.
 Pandrang Rao, Mr. V.
 Parasurama Rao Pantulu, Mr. A.
 Parthasarathi Ayyangar, Mr. C. R.
 Patro, Kt., Rao Bahadur Sir A. P.
 Premayya, Mr. G. R.
 Raja of Panagal, K.C.I.E.
 Raja of Ramnad.
 Rajan, Mr. P. T.
 Ramachandra Padayachi, Mr. K.
 Ramachandra Reddi, Mr. B.
 Ramaswamayajulu, Mr. C.
 Ramaswami Ayyar, Mr. U.
 Subhajanandan, Mr. Swami A. S.
 Saldanha, Mr. J. A.
 Sami Venkatachalam Chetti, Mr.
 Sarabha Reddi, Mr. K.
 Satyamurti, Mr. S.
 Shetty, Mr. A. B.
 Siva Raj, Mr. N.
 Sivasubrahmanya Ayyar, Mr. K. S.
 Slater, C.I.E., Mr. S. H.
 Smith, Mr. J. Mackenzie.
 Soundara Pandia Nadar, Mr. W. P. A.

14th March 1927]

PRESENT—*cont.*

Srinivasa Ayyangar, Mr. R.
Srinivasan, Rao Sahib R.
Subrahmanya Moopanar, Mr. S.
Swami, Mr. K. V. R.
Syed Ibrahim Sahib Bahadur.
Tajudin Sahib Bahadur, Syed.
Tireman, C.I.E., Mr. H.
Tulasiram, Mr. L. K.
Vanavundaiya Goundar, Mr. S. V.
Venkatapati Raju, Mr. P. C.

Venkatarama Ayyar, Mr. K. B.
Venkatarama Sastri, C.I.E., Mr. T. R.
Venkataramana Ayyangar, Mr. C. V.
Venkataratnam, Mr. B.
Venkiah, Mr. S.
Wood, Mr. C. E.
Zamindar of Gollapalli,
Zamindar of Mirzapuram.
Zamindar of Seithur.

I

NEW MEMBER.

Mr. P. L. MOORE made the prescribed oath of allegiance and then took his seat.

II

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

[*Order made by the President of the Madras Legislative Council under Standing Order No. 15.*]

1. Starred questions to be put at a meeting of the Council with their answers shall be printed and placed on the Council table an hour before the President takes his seat.

The President will call out the name of each interpellator in the order in which the names are printed, specify the serial number of his question and make a sufficient pause to give him or any other member a reasonable opportunity of rising in his place and putting a supplementary question. Supplementary questions must be put immediately after the principal questions to which they relate.

2. If a Member responsible for a starred question happens to be absent when it is called, it will be open either to him or to any other member to put supplementary questions thereon after the other starred questions for the day have been answered, provided question-time is not thereby exceeded.

3. Questions, not starred, will not be called in Council, but they will be printed with their answers and placed on the table of the House along with the list of starred questions. Oral supplementary questions will not be allowed in regard to unstarred questions.]

STARRED QUESTIONS

Excise

Closing of toddy shops in famine areas.

241 Q.—Mr. G. HARISARVOTTAMA RAO: Will the hon. the Minister for Public Health be pleased to state—

(a) whether any steps have been taken to alter the excise policy of the Government in such a manner as to provide for the closing of toddy and arrack shops in famine areas; and

(b) if so, what is the specific provision made?

A.—(a) & (b) No.

Mr. G. HARISARVOTTAMA RAO:—“May I know, Sir, if the hon. the Minister for Excise is aware of the fact that on the 22nd August 1924, a similar question was asked in this House and the then Government said that they would consider about the suggestion made in a question of this nature? If he is aware of the question and the answer, may I ask whether any consideration was given to it, and what the result was that was arrived at?”

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The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" Order, order. Does the question arise out of the answer now given ? "

Mr. G. HARISARVOTTAMA RAO :—" Yes, Sir. A previous question was asked on a similar topic in this House, and I am asking the hon. the Minister who has given the reply that nothing has been done, whether he is aware of a fact that occurred in this House in 1924 in the time of his predecessor ? "

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" I hold that the supplementary question does not arise out of the answer now given."

Mr. K. V. R. SWAMI :—" Are the Government going to consider whether they would make any such arrangement as to prevent the sale of liquor in famine areas now ? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR :—" I take it Sir, that famine has not been declared so far in any area."

Mr. K. V. R. SWAMI :—" I mean, where there is prevalence of famine conditions ; not that the Government have declared any area as famine-affected. It was admitted the other day that famine conditions were prevalent in certain areas."

The hon. Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR :—" I will consider the matter, Sir, if famine is declared in any particular area."

Mr. G. HARISARVOTTAMA RAO :—" May I ask the hon. the Minister for Excise whether he is prepared to take some steps to provide for the closing of toddy and arrack shops in the Bellary district, at any rate, where some works have been opened by the district board concerned, in view of the famine conditions prevailing in that district ? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR :—" I think Sir, that if it is brought to our notice that famine labourers are actually using arrack and toddy, it will then be time to consider the question. "

Mr. G. HARISARVOTTAMA RAO :—" May I know whether the hon. the Minister fixes any percentage of famine labourers drinking in these shops before he proposes to take any action ? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR :—" Our experience has so far been, Sir, that famine wages are so low that famine labourers do not go in for these toddy and arrack shops."

Mr. G. HARISARVOTTAMA RAO :—" In view of the answer given by the hon. the Minister for Excise, may I enquire, Sir, if drink is not a temptation when wages are so low as not to be sufficient for obtaining food ? "

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" It is calling for an opinion. "

Mr. S. SATYAMURTI :—" In view of the answer, may I ask the Government to state the reasons why, in the absence of any perceptible fall of revenue because of the closing of the shops, the hon. the Minister will not direct these shops to be closed ? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR :—" It is our experience, Sir, that when there is scarcity and famine and when bad economic conditions are prevalent, that revenue automatically goes down."

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Mr. S. SATYAMURTI :—“ Therefore, Sir, may I ask why, when the revenue automatically goes down, the Government may not at least show a gesture towards prohibition by closing these shops, for, the hon. the Finance Member cannot then object, because the revenue goes down anyhow.” (Laughter).

The hon. Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR :—“ Not the whole revenue, Sir, but only a portion of it goes down only in the affected parts.”

Diwan Bahadur M. KRISHNAN NAYAR :—“ May I request hon. Members to speak up, Sir, for, we are not able to hear anything from this place ?

Mr. S. SATYAMURTI :—“ May I take it, therefore, that the hon. the Minister realises the full import of the statement that unless by a voluntary denial, owing to supreme economic necessity, drink is reduced among people, the Government won't even take one step towards making prohibition possible, when three-fourths of the steps are already taken by the economic forces of hunger, etc. ? ”

Medical Administration

Government School of Indian Medicine.

* 242 Q.—Mr. C. GOPALA MENON : Will the hon. the Minister for Public Health be pleased to state—

(a) the total sum spent on the Government School of Indian Medicine for the past year ;

(b) the number of in-patients admitted ;

(c) the sum spent on each patient per diem ;

(d) the number of out-patients that attended ;

(e) the sum allotted for the past year for supplying medicine for the out-patients ;

(f) the number of students that attended the school ; and

(g) the sum expended on each student ?

A.—(a) The expenditure on the school (excluding that on the hospital attached to it) was approximately Rs. 20,515 for the period from 1st April 1926 to 31st December 1926.

(b) Two hundred [from 1st September 1926 (the date of opening of the hospital) up to 31st December 1926].

(c) Annas 6-3 (for both diet and medicines).

(d) Seventy-seven thousand four hundred and eighty-eight [from 1st July 1926 (the date of opening of the Out-patient department) up to 31st December 1926].

(e) Rupees 1,000.

(f) Two-hundred and twenty.

(g) Rupees 98-4-0.

Mr. C. GOPALA MENON :—“ Sir, with regard to the answer to clause (c) about the sum spent on each patient per diem, it is stated that the cost is As. 6-3 (for both diet and medicine). Was there any application for increasing this rate ?

The hon. Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR :—“ There is an application, Sir.”

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Mr. C. GOPALA MENON :—“ In answer to my question about the sum allotted for the past year for supplying medicines for the out-patients, it is said that the amount was Rs. 1,000. Does that include the Ayurvedic, Unani and English medicines ? ”

The hon. Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR :—“ I believe we shall have to increase that provision, Sir, because the number of out-patients is considerably increasing.”

Diwan Bahadur M. KRISHNAN NAYAR :—“ Does, the hon. the Minister think, Sir, that six annas and three pies a day is an adequate amount for an out-patient ? ”

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—“ He has already answered a question stating that an application was received to increase the rate and that the matter was under consideration.”

Diwan Bahadur M. KRISHNAN NAYAR :—“ This is the first time I hear of it, Sir.”

Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR :—“ In the answer to clause (b), it is stated that the number of in-patients is 200. May I know the number of beds provided for the in-patients there ? ”

The hon. Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR :—“ I think the number of beds is about 30, Sir.”

Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR :—“ Then, does it mean that from 1st September to 31st December 1926, there were 200 patients admitted to these 30 beds ? ”

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—“ That is the answer given.”

Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR :—“ In some hospitals beds are not available sometimes and on such occasions they provide temporary beds. I want to know whether there was any occasion for temporary beds being used in this hospital, whether the number admitted was so great.

The hon. Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR :—“ I do not think so, Sir.

Mr. ABDUL HAMID KHAN :—“ In answer to (d), the number of out-patients is given as 77,488. May I know the number of patients who went in for the Unani system of treatment ? ”

The hon. Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR :—“ I should like to have notice, Sir. I have not got the information ready.

Appointment of Captain Verdon as the Superintendent of Ophthalmic Hospital.

* 243 Q.—Mr. P. ANJANEYULU : Will the hon. the Minister for Public Health be pleased to state—

(a) whether before appointing Captain Verdon as the Superintendent of Ophthalmic Hospital, Madras, the claims of the Assistant Superintendent of the Hospital were taken into consideration ;

(b) whether Captain Verdon is a junior officer of the Indian Medical Service of only three years' standing ;

(c) in what way Captain Verdon holds better qualifications than the Indian Assistant Superintendent ; and

(d) whether the appointment was due to racial reasons ?

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A. - (a) Yes.

(b) No. Captain P. Verdon has a total service of $9\frac{1}{2}$ years (excluding war service).

(c) The post of Superintendent of the Government Ophthalmic Hospital, Madras, is an appointment reserved for officers of the Indian Medical Service. Captain Verdon was specially selected by the Government of India in 1923 to act as Superintendent of the Ophthalmic Hospital when Major R. E. Wright, I.M.S., proceeded on leave. Before coming to Madras, Captain Verdon was an Ophthalmic specialist in the Army and he had also extensive experience in Ophthalmic Hospitals in Great Britain where he held the post of Registrar of the Royal Ophthalmic Hospital.

(d) No.

Mr. P. ANJANEYULU :—"I should like to know, Sir, whether this appointment was acting or permanent."

The hon. Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR :—"The appointment is an acting one, Sir, in the place of a permanent man who has gone on leave."

Mr. P. ANJANEYULU :—"May I know, Sir, in regard to the answers to clauses (a) and (c), whether the claims of the Assistant Superintendent of the Ophthalmic Hospital were taken into consideration? If it were an acting appointment, cannot the Assistant Superintendent be appointed, as Indian Medical Service men may be required for permanent posts?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR :—"The place of the Superintendent, Ophthalmic Hospital, is one that is reserved for the Indian Medical Service officers."

Mr. S. SATYAMURTI :—"Sir, in view of the hon. the Minister's statement that it was an acting appointment, may I ask him to state whether the rule, referred to in the first sentence of clause (c), applies also to acting appointments and if not, why the claims of this Indian Assistant Superintendent have been overlooked?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR :—"It does apply as a rule, Sir. The vacancy is for one year."

Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR :—"May I know whether this appointment is one ordinarily made by the Government of India or by the Government of Madras? And if it is to be made by the Government of Madras, may I know why this acting appointment was made by the Government of India?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR :—"It is not made by the Government of India but by the Government of Madras."

Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR :—"The answer shows that this officer was selected by the Government of India for this post in 1923. Does it mean that the Government of India select the officer and ask the Government of Madras to appoint him?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR :—"He was selected in 1923, Sir."

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Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR :—" I am dealing with 1923 first and then coming to the present appointment. I want to know why he is appointed now. Is it because he was selected by the Government of India in 1923 ? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR :—" I am not quite sure, Sir, but probably the Government of Madras asked the Government of India for an eye specialist."

Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR :—" Then is he an I.M.S. officer ? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR :—" I believe, he is."

Mr. ABDUL HAMID KHAN :—" May I know whether Captain Verdon is a specialist in eye treatment ? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR :—" I said so, Sir."

Mr. ABDUL HAMID KHAN :—" Has he had any experience in big eye hospitals ? "

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" That question has been answered."

Mr. P. ANJANEYULU :—" As regards the answer to clause (a), if an I.M.S. officer ought to be selected, may I know for what purpose the claims of the Assistant Superintendent of this hospital were considered ? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR :—" As far as I know, Sir, the Assistant Superintendent has no claims, because, as I said, it is an I.M.S. appointment."

Mr. S. SATYAMURTI :—" May I ask the hon. the Minister to look at the answer ? The answer to clause (a) shows that the claims of the Assistant Superintendent of the Ophthalmic Hospital were taken into consideration. May I ask the hon. the Minister to elucidate the whole answer, and state in the case of an appointment reserved for I.M.S. officers why the claims of this gentleman were considered at all ; and secondly I repeat my question whether really reservation rules regarding I.M.S. officers apply even to acting appointments ? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR :—" Not always, Sir. If it is a short vacancy, we put in the man on the spot. But this is a pretty long vacancy."

Mr. S. SATYAMURTI :—" May I know if there is a rule in the matter, or whether it is merely the Minister's idea as to what is long and what is short ? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR :—" I do not know if there is any specific rule, Sir."

Mr. S. SATYAMURTI :—" Then, may I know why in this case the rule is quoted as if it is to be applied statutorily and the Government's hands were tied and they had no option in the matter but to appoint the particular gentleman of the Indian Medical Service ? "

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The hon. Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR :—" As 11-15
I have already said, it was a long vacancy." a.m.

Mr. S. SATYAMURTI :—" May I know whether there is a rule in the Government rules that if the duration is nine months, ten months or one year, the vacancy should be filled by an I.M.S. officer or whether it is a question of the Minister being directed to do so by his Secretary ? "

Competitive Examination for Recruitment of Civil Assistant Surgeons.

* 244 Q.—Mr. B. S. MALLAYYA : Will the hon. the Minister for Public Health be pleased to state—

(a) when the Competitive Examination for Recruitment of Civil Assistant Surgeons was abolished ;

(b) why it was abolished ;

(c) whether it will be introduced again ; and

(d) if so, when ?

A.—(a) The Competitive Examination for the Recruitment of Civil Assistant Surgeons has not been abolished, but it has been held in abeyance since 1918.

(b) This was done in order to ensure that posts were available for the medical officers who were holding temporary commissions in the Indian Medical Service during the late war and to whom a promise of permanent employment in the Civil department had been given as a condition of their proceeding on war service.

(c) & (d) The question of reviving the competitive examination is under the consideration of the Government.

The RAJA OF RAMNAD :—" With reference to the answer to clause (d) may I ask the hon. Minister how long the question has been under consideration ? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR :—" I cannot definitely say the time. It has been under consideration for some time. The matter is one which has been under consideration from the time of the previous ministry. We have not so far received a definite report. I have called upon the Surgeon-General to send me a report as early as possible."

The RAJA OF RAMNAD :—" Arising out of that answer, may I ask before what time he expects to take a decision on the subject ? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR :—" As early as possible, Sir."

Mr. B. S. MALLAYYA :—" May I know from the hon. the Minister for Public Health whether all the men that have been selected have military service to their credit ? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR :—" I believe so, Sir."

Mr. B. S. MALLAYYA :—" Are there no men without that qualification ? "

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The hon. Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR :—" I should like to have notice, Sir."

Mr. B. S. MALLAYYA :—" Is it a fact that one or two men who happen to be the relations of high officers in the department have been taken in without any military service ? "

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" The hon. Minister wanted notice to examine the question and give an answer."

Mr. B. S. MALLAYYA :—" I want to know whether he is aware that one or two men have been taken in simply because they happen to be the relations of men in service."

Mr. ABDUL HAMID KHAN :—" As for the competitive examination, will the hon. the Minister be pleased to state if there are any vacancies to be filled in in a month or two ? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR :—" I am not aware of it, Sir."

Mr. ABDUL HAMID KHAN :—" With reference to the answer to (c) and (d), will the hon. the Minister be pleased to state if there are any vacancies to be filled up, say in a month or two, and if so, how they are going to be filled up ? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR :—" I should like to have notice, Sir."

Mr. L. K. TULASIRAM :—" With regard to the answer to clause (b), will the hon. the Minister be pleased to state the principles by which he is guided in making the appointments from persons holding temporary commissions in the Indian Medical Service during the late war, and to whom a promise of permanent employment in the Civil department had been given as a condition of their proceeding on war service ? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR :—" I suppose with reference to their merits, Sir, but the matter has not come up for decision yet."

Mr. L. K. TULASIRAM :—" Will the hon. the Minister for Public Health be pleased to state whether he is guided by certain definite principles in making appointments from among persons who have got war service qualifications ? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR :—" I believe it is done on merits, Sir."

The RAJA OF RAMNAD :—" Is it the intention of the hon. Minister to stop direct recruitment till this question is considered and a decision is taken ? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR :—" Yes, Sir."

Mr. B. S. MALLAYYA :—" Is it a fact, Sir, that a definite statement was made to these men before they volunteered for war that all the vacancies in the department will be filled by them ? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR :—" That is so, Sir."

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Mr. B. S. MALLAYYA :—" If that is so, may I know why men without military service are preferred now ? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR :—" I should like to have notice of that statement, Sir."

Mr. B. S. MALLAYYA :—" Am I to understand, Sir, that the hon. the Minister is not aware that some of the men who have been entertained in the department have no military service to their credit ? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR :—" I said so, Sir."

Agriculture

Supply of test engines to agricultural ryots.

* 245 Q.—Mr. C. N. MUTHURANGA MUDALIYAR : Will the hon. the Minister for Development be pleased to state—

(a) the rates for which test engines for pumping purposes are supplied to the agricultural ryots by the department of agriculture ;

(b) the rates for which the engines were supplied during Pre-Reform days ;

(c) the necessity for the increase of the rates, if any, and under whose initiative it was done ;

(d) whether the Government will reduce the fees to the old rates in the interests of the ryots ;

(e) whether the Government is aware of the delay by the department in supplying engines to the applicants ; and

(f) whether the Government will instruct the department to be prompt in the above matter ?

A.—(a) & (b) The rates are given below :—

	Rate before 1920.	Present rate.
	RS.	RS.
Transport fee	25	50
Fee for the use of the pump.	3 a day subject to a minimum of Rs. 15.	4 a day sub- ject to a minimum of Rs. 20.
Fee—		
Special plant working on liquid fuel—		
For one month.	75	100
For three months.	150	250
For six months.	250	450

(c) The rates were increased at the instance of the Director of Industries who reported that the cost of transport and other charges had increased considerably.

(a) The matter is under the consideration of the Government.

(e) & (f) The delay must very largely be due to the fact that the number of machines at the disposal of the department was inadequate to meet the demand for them. The number was recently increased and it is hoped that the department would comply with applications as expeditiously as possible.

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Mr. S. MUTTAYYA MUDALIYAR :—" May I know if the transport fee is the same whether the distance is five miles or three miles ? "

The hon. Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—" It is not, Sir."

Mr. S. MUTTAYYA MUDALIYAR :—" It is said in clause (c) that the rates were increased at the instance of the Director of Industries who reported that the cost of transport and other charges had increased considerably. The cost of transport cannot be, the same for five miles or fifty miles. So, is it a fact that a consolidated cost is put in ? "

The hon. Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—" It is rather difficult to fix the cost of transport for each application. The total cost has been worked out and some average has been fixed as the most convenient form."

Mr. S. MUTTAYYA MUDALIYAR :—" Why cannot a rate at so much per mile be fixed and collected ? "

The hon. Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—" I will find out. The matter is receiving consideration."

Mr. S. MUTTAYYA MUDALIYAR :—" May I ask the hon. Minister whether, since 1920, Government have found that they make a profit on their fees ? "

The hon. Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—" I do not think any profit has been made."

Mr. T. ADINARAYANA CHETTIYAR :—" This rate of Rs. 50, is it also the charge for the new power-boring drill stated to have been imported recently ? "

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" The question does not arise now as the main question is only regarding engines."

Mr. T. ADINARAYANA CHETTIYAR :—" Is it a fact that there has been a proposal from the Director of Industries to the Government to reduce the present rates ? "

The hon. Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—" The matter is under consideration and I do not want to go further than that."

Mr. T. ADINARAYANA CHETTIYAR :—" In cases where the experiment proves a failure, has there been a suggestion to remit all the fees paid ? "

The hon. Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—" That, among others, is under consideration."

Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR :—" As regards (e) and (f) of course, Government have very carefully worded the answer."

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" I have already asked the hon. Member not to comment upon the answers given by Government."

Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR :—" In view of the very carefully worded answer that the delay was very largely due to the fact that the number of machines available was inadequate, are the Government aware of the fact that even in the case of the engines that are available there has been very great delay ? "

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The hon. Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—" In view of the large number of applications, there is bound to be delay."

Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR :—" What I was asking was whether even in respect of . . . "

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" I have already said that the hon. Member is not entitled to explain his own statements in his supplementary questions."

Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR :—" I am asking whether there has not been delay in moving the engines already available ? "

The hon. Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—" There has been no avoidable delay, so far."

Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR :—" Is there a proposal to increase the number of engines ? "

The hon. Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—" Yes, Sir."

Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR :—" How many ? "

The hon. Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—" Notice, Sir."

Diwan Bahadur M. KRISHNAN NAYAR :—" May I know from the hon. the Minister whether the engines purchased from America last year has been lent to the agriculturists on application ? "

The hon. Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—" The power drills have been lent."

Diwan Bahadur M. KRISHNAN NAYAR :—" May I know if it is not the object of the department to lend these engines ? "

The hon. Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—" What I mean is, that we have only a small number of these engines and we can give them only so far as we can."

Diwan Bahadur M. KRISHNAN NAYAR :—" How many were already in existence and how many were purchased last year from America ? "

The hon. Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—" The number was increased from six to nine."

Mr. R. SRINIVASA AYYANGAR :—" Arising out of the answer to (e) and (f), may I know the percentage of the increase, the number of engines at present as compared with the number already existing ? "

The hon. Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—" I have already replied in answer to the question of my hon. Friend Mr. Krishnan Nayar that the number has risen from 6 to 9."

Mr. ABDUL HAMID KHAN :—" May I know where the engines are at present located ? "

The hon. Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—" Notice, Sir."

Mr. T. ADINARAYANA CHETTIYAR :—" May I ask the hon. Minister to state the period that is taken between the date of the application and the actual date of giving ? "

The hon. Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—" I have not worked it out and I am not able to answer."

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Mr. P. ANJANEYULU :—" May I ask whether these are sent from Madras or sent from different centres ? "

The hon. Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—" It depends upon the place at which the machine actually is at the time of the application."

Diwan Bahadur M. KRISHNAN NAYAR :—" May I know from my hon. Friend whether the engines that were purchased last year from America are really useful in boring rocks ? "

The hon. Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—" Yes, Sir."

Diwan Bahadur M. KRISHNAN NAYAR :—" May I know whether they are more powerful in the matter of boring rocks than the engines which the department already possessed ? "

The hon. Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—" Yes, Sir."

Mr. ABDUL HAMID KHAN :—" May I know if one of the boring drills is at the Cosmopolitan Club ? "

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" I have already ruled that the question deals with engines and not with boring drills."

Diwan Bahadur M. KRISHNAN NAYAR :—" They are identical with boring drills."

Public Works

Construction of the bridge at Sivasamudram.

* 246 Q.—Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR : Will the hon. the Minister for Development be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that much inconvenience is caused by the delay in putting up the bridge at Sivasamudram, Kollegal taluk ;

(b) whether the Collector of the district has strongly recommended the construction of a single bridge near Satyagal and whether the Government have passed any orders on the question ;

(c) whether the Chief Engineer has been asked to prepare estimates and whether the estimates have been prepared ;

(d) whether the work is to be commenced in 1927-28 and, if so, how much money has been provided for in the budget ;

(e) whether the ryots holding lands in the island of Sivasamudram want the bridge between the island and the mainland in Kollegal side to be repaired at once as they are not able to take carts to their lands over that bridge ; and

(f) whether the question of the responsibility of the Jaghirdar of Sivasamudram to defray any expenses towards the new bridge and to repair the old bridge referred to in (e) has been finally decided and if so, to what effect ?

A.—(a) Yes.

(b) Yes. The Government have approved of the proposal but, on the Chief Engineer's recommendation the bridge will be constructed at a site between the site of the old bridge and that recommended by the Collector.

(c) Yes. Detailed plans and estimates are under preparation.

(d) Yes. A sum of Rs. 1 lakh has been provided in the next year's budget subject to the vote of the Council.

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- (e) No such representation from the ryots has been received by the Government but the Collector has reported that, in the interests of the cultivators owning land on the island, it is necessary to repair the bridge.
- (f) The Government have dropped the question of the liability of the jaghirdar to meet the cost of the new bridge or a portion of it. The question of the jaghirdar's liability to repair the bridge referred to in clause (e) is under the consideration of Government.

Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR :—" As regards (e) may, I know if the Collector has stated that he has received a number of memorials from the ryots ? "

The hon. Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—" I think the people have petitioned now."

Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR :—" I am glad, Sir, that the Government now give that answer."

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" I request the hon. Member not to comment upon the answers of the Government."

Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR :—" That was only intended to be spoken aside, Sir. May I know if the Government mean to build soon the small bridge ? "

The hon. Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—" Not that, Sir, a similar one."

Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR :—" Was not the Collector's report made two years ago ? "

The hon. Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—" The matter is under the consideration of the Local Self-Government Department. If notice is given, the further stage will be enquired."

Education

Hindu and Muhammadan Elementary schools in this Presidency.

* 247 Q.—MUHAMMAD KHADIR MOHIDIN SAHIB Bahadur: Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) the total number of Hindu Elementary schools in this Presidency and the number of Hindu pupils reading therein;

(b) the total number of Muhammadan Elementary schools in this Presidency and the number of Muhammadan pupils therein; and

(c) if the number of Muhammadan Elementary schools is proportionately less, when compared with the number of Hindu schools, the reasons therefor and the steps the Government propose to take to increase their number?

A.—(a) There are no elementary schools in the Presidency specially intended for Hindus. On the 31st March 1926, there were 43,904 public elementary schools exclusive of those specially intended for Muhammadans. They are open to all classes of

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pupils and the number of Hindu pupils in them was 1,644,262. There were also 44,854 Muhammadan pupils reading in these schools.

(b) On the 31st March 1926, there were 2,955 elementary schools chiefly intended for Muhammadans with 169,587 pupils.

(c) The question does not arise.

MUHAMMAD KHADIR MOHIDIN SAHIB Bahadur :—“ With regard to clause (c), if the number of elementary schools is proportionately less, may I know whether the hon. the Minister for Education and Local Self-Government has any intention to increase the elementary schools for Muhammadans ? ”

The hon. Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN :—“ As I have said in the answer, there are no special elementary schools intended for Hindus. There are special elementary schools for Muhammadans. I shall call for a report on the question of proportion.”

Local Boards

Construction of a road to Srisailam in Kurnool district.

* 248 Q.—**Mr. G. HARISARVOTTAMA RAO** : Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government have received representations asking for the construction of a road or roads to Srisailam in the Kurnool district ; and

(b) if so, what action has been taken in the matter ?

A.—(a) Yes.

(b) The views of the Kurnool District Board have been called for.

Nominations to Calicut Taluk Board.

* 249 Q.—**Mr. K. MADHAVAN NAYAR** : Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that all the nominated members of the Calicut Taluk Board were appointed by the District Board President, Malabar, in June 1926, nearly two months before the elections, which were held only in August 1926 ; and

(b) whether such appointments are valid and proper and are in conformity with the principles governing the appointment of nominated members ?

A.—(a) Yes. Under the following circumstances. The Taluk Board was amalgamated with the Kurumbranad Taluk Board and reconstituted with effect from 1st July 1925, and all the members of the new board were appointed by the Government for a period of one year from that date. The terms of these members expired on 30th June 1926, and it was not found possible to complete elections to the taluk board before August 1926. A board had therefore to be formed consisting of nominated members to carry on the administration in the meanwhile.

(b) Such appointments are valid. In ordinary circumstances, nominations should be made after elections.

Mr. K. MADHAVAN NAYAR :—“ It is stated in the answer that the terms of these members expired on 30th June 1926 and it was not found possible to complete elections. May I know why it was not found possible ? ”

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The hon. Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN :—" I would like to have notice. Probably it was due to electoral rolls not having been prepared."

Mr. K. MADHAVAN NAYAR :—" May I know whether the elections were begun, if not completed before June ? "

The hon. Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN :—" Notice."

Mr. A. KALESWARA RAO :—" May I know if the persons nominated before the elections took place belonged to the depressed classes or to minority communities ? "

The hon. Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN :—" They were nominated from all communities."

Mr. A. KALESWARA RAO :—" May I know whether the hon. Minister is sure that the very communities from which nominations were made were not represented by elections afterwards ? "

The hon. Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN :—" I should like to have notice."

Mr. B. VENKATARATNAM (in Telugu) :—" When new boards are formed, will the hon. Minister be pleased to dispense with nomination and arrange for election completely ? "

The hon. Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN :—" If that is the wish of the hon. Members, I have no objection."

Mr. A. KALESWARA RAO :—" May I know if the castes from which members were nominated were again represented among elected members ? "

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" Order, order. It is calling for opinion."

Representation of Wynad taluk in Malabar.

250 Q.—Mr. K. MADHAVAN NAYAR : Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Wynad taluk in Malabar has no representatives either elected or nominated on the District Board of Malabar ;

(b) why such representation is denied to the people of Wynad ; and

(c) whether the Government propose to give representation to the people of Wynad on the District Board of Malabar hereafter ?

A.—(a) No.

(b) & (c) The Wynad Taluk Board was abolished with effect from 1st November 1924. The Government proposed to secure representation of the area on the district board by direct election, but were advised that such a course would not be legal. The Government have therefore directed that until the law has been amended, representation on the district board of Wynad taluk and other areas in the district for which there is no taluk board should be secured by nomination.

Mr. K. MADHAVAN NAYAR :—" In answer to clauses (b) and (c) it is said, 11-30
'The Wynad Taluk Board was abolished with effect from 1st November a.m.
1924, and later on I find 'The Government have therefore directed that
until the law has been amended, representation on the District Board of
Wynad taluk and other areas in the district for which there is no taluk

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board should be secured by nomination.' Nearly two years have elapsed now. Was any instruction given to the District Board, or any attempt made to nominate an inhabitant of the Wynad taluk ? "

The hon. Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN :—" There was a Bill before the Council for securing representation directly to the District Board, but that was dropped."

Mr. K. MADHAVAN NAYAR :—" That is not exactly my question, Sir. My question is this : whether during the years that intervened between the abolition of the Wynad Taluk Board in 1924 and 1926, any attempt was made to nominate any of the inhabitants of the Wynad taluk to the District Board of Malabar ? "

The hon. Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN :—" I believe that was not possible, because there were no vacant nominated seats on the Malabar District Board."

Mr. K. MADHAVAN NAYAR :—" May I say that even within the last six months, there has been a nomination to the District Board ? Can the hon. the Minister say definitely that there was no nomination made during the last two years ? "

The hon. Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN :—" I shall have the matter looked into."

Alleged delay in disposal of appeals by District Board Presidents.

* 251 Q.—Mr. A. PARASURAMA RAO : Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Local Self-Government be pleased to call for a statement from the presidents of district boards who were candidates for this Council at the recent elections showing—

- (a) the number of appeals pending with them preferred by their subordinates against punishments inflicted on them, just before the elections ;
- (b) the duration of their pendency ;
- (c) the reason for their pendency ; and
- (d) when they were disposed of either before or after the elections ?

A.—Information has been called for from the presidents of district boards concerned.

Mr. A. PARASURAMA RAO :—" May I know when the information is likely to be received by the Government ? The question was asked so early as on the 17th January 1927."

The hon. Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN :—" I believe the Presidents of the District Boards were asked to expedite their reply. I hope to get the answer before the end of the month. The hon. Member may repeat the question."

Criminal Tribes

Alleged compulsion of ' Villiyars ' to report themselves to police officers.

* 252 Q.—Mr. C. N. MUTHURANGA MUDALIYAR : Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

- (a) whether it is a fact that a certain class of people called the Villiyars are now being asked to report themselves to the local police every day in the Chingleput district ;

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(b) whether the Government are aware that those people are mainly poor coolies earning their bread every day ;

(c) whether the Government are aware that the system of their having to report themselves to the police every day is a great hardship to them and is prejudicial to their earning their living ;

(d) whether the Government are aware that many of them are innocent and have no bad record ;

(e) whether the Government are aware that they are sometimes compelled to do even menial work to the police officers ; and

(f) whether the Government will consider the advisability of freeing the innocent people among them from such hardships ?

A.—(a) to (f) The Government have no information. A report is being called for.

Mr. C. N. MUTHURANGA MUDALIYAR :—“ Sir, in view of the fact that notice of this question has been given on 8th February 1927, is it deemed that the time is too short for answering it ? ”

The hon. Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—“ I am very glad that the question has been asked, Sir. I have received the report from the District Magistrate that he is now engaged in revising the orders already passed to bring them into conformity with the revised rules passed by Government, and these revised rules mitigate to a very great extent the hardships pointed out by the hon. Member.”

Mr. T. ADINARAYANA CHETTIYAR :—“ Are the revised rules published ? ”

The hon. Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—“ Yes, Sir.”

Mr. T. ADINARAYANA CHETTIYAR :—“ May I know where and when they have been published ? ”

The hon. Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—“ I think they have been published in the *Port St. George Gazette* and I hold in my hand a copy of the Government Order in which these revised rules have been issued. It is G.O. No. 2008, dated 21st November 1926.”

Constitution of Districts, Divisions and Taluks

Alleged transfer of Kangundi division from North Arcot to Chittoor.

* 253 Q.—Mr. M. A. MANIKKAVELU NAYAKAR : Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that the Government propose to transfer Kangundi division from North Arcot to Chittoor ;

(b) whether they have received monster mahazars protesting against the proposed transfer ;

(c) whether the Government propose to abandon the proposed transfer ; and

(d) whether the civil jurisdiction already transferred to Chittoor in February 1925 will be restored to Tiruppattur, North Arcot, as of old ?

A.—(a) Such a proposal has been published for criticism.

(b) A petition signed by a few individuals has been received enclosing a copy of a mahazar said to have been presented to the Collector of North Arcot.

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(c) The Government allowed time till the 15th February 1927 for the receipt of objections, if any, to the proposed transfer. The final decision of Government has not been made.

(d) No such proposal is under the consideration of the Government.

Mr. M. A. MANIKKAVELU NAYAKAR :—" With reference to the answer to clause (a), may I know the reasons which prompted the proposal for transfer ? "

The hon. Mr. N. E. MARJORIBANKS :—" There were two reasons: one was that the civil jurisdiction has been transferred, and the second was that the area is entirely Telugu and the rest of the North Arcot district is Tamil."

Mr. M. A. MANIKKAVELU NAYAKAR :—" With reference to the answer to clause (b), may I know what the Collector of North Arcot has recommended ? "

The hon. Mr. N. E. MARJORIBANKS :—" I do not think he recommended anything with regard to the mahazar, however, I must ask for notice."

Mr. T. ADINARAYANA CHETTIYAR :—" May I ask the hon. Member whether he is aware that considerable inconvenience is caused to the people of Kangundi Kuppam by the transfer of the civil court jurisdiction already to Chittoor, as parties have to travel for a day and a half sometimes spending much, instead of going to Tiruppattur which is only 20 or 30 miles from Kuppam ? "

The hon. Mr. N. E. MARJORIBANKS :—" No, Sir."

Mr. T. ADINARAYANA CHETTIYAR :—" Is it not a fact that the mahazar which the hon. Member refers to in the answer, clearly states the fact that the people are already suffering heavy hardships from the jurisdiction having been taken to Chittoor ? "

The hon. Mr. N. E. MARJORIBANKS :—" If the hon. Member says so, Sir, I accept it."

Mr. T. ADINARAYANA CHETTIYAR :—" In the answer, the mahazar is said to be signed by a few people. What is the idea of the hon. Member as to the number of signatories to a mahazar ? "

The hon. Mr. N. E. MARJORIBANKS :—" The answer does not say, Sir, that the mahazar was signed by a few people."

Mr. T. ADINARAYANA CHETTIYAR :—" May I ask the hon. Member to state how and from whom the idea originated to suggest to Government the transfer of the Kuppam revenue division from North Arcot to Chittoor ? "

The hon. Mr. N. E. MARJORIBANKS :—" I did it."

Mr. T. ADINARAYANA CHETTIYAR :—" Has the attention of the hon. Member been drawn to the statement in the press that the hon. Member originated the idea while he was a guest of the zamindar and not at the request of a large number of inhabitants of Kuppam ? "

The hon. Mr. N. E. MARJORIBANKS :—" I have not seen such a statement, Sir."

Mr. T. ADINARAYANA CHETTIYAR :—" Will he kindly consider the matter sufficiently in view of the above statement made ? "

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The hon. Mr. N. E. MARJORIBANKS :—" I do not know what matter it is I am to consider."

Mr. T. ADINARAYANA CHETTIYAR :—" The matter, Sir, is that the people really do not want the transfer. But the zamindar wants it, and the hon. Member who was a guest there gave some sort of promise ? "

The hon. Mr. N. E. MARJORIBANKS :—" That is not true, Sir."

Mr. T. ADINARAYANA CHETTIYAR :—" I am glad to hear it. Will he kindly make an effort to ascertain the public opinion in Kuppam about this transfer, apart from the mahazar already sent, copies of which some of us have received ? "

The hon. Mr. N. E. MARJORIBANKS :—" Certainly, Sir."

Land Revenue

Failure of crops in Coimbatore district.

* 254 Q.—Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR : Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether any memorials or reports have been received that the rainfall in the taluk of Kollegal in the Coimbatore district has been very defective this year and that the crops have suffered ;

(b) whether applications for remission have been received on a large scale and whether the Revenue officers insist that the grass should stand on all lands till they are able to inspect them ;

(c) whether reports have been received that the rainfall is insufficient throughout the district of Coimbatore and that there is much distress ; and

(d) whether the Government have passed any orders general or special regarding the distress and remission in Coimbatore district ?

A.—(a) No memorials have been received. The reports received by the Government show that the rainfall this year has been defective in Kollegal taluk.

(b) The Government are not aware of the scale on which applications for remission have been received. Revenue officers have discretion to grant remission if crops have been cut before they could be inspected. The reference to grass is not understood.

(c) No.

(d) The Government have issued instructions that all claims to remission should be investigated and settled promptly.

Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR :—" As regards the answer to clause (b), may I know the percentage of ryots who have sent remission applications in Kollegal taluk ? "

The hon. Mr. N. E. MARJORIBANKS :—" Notice, Sir."

Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR :—" With regard to clause (b), is it not a fact that the revenue officers have not exercised the discretion and insisted upon the grass not being cut. Of course, there can be no question of crops, because there are no grains at all. I want to know whether the hon. Member is aware of the fact that the revenue officers have refused to exercise their discretion, and whether they insist on the grass to be still standing ? "

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The hon. Mr. N. E. MARJORIBANKS :—"No, Sir, I am not aware of that."

The RAJA OF RAMNAD :—"I want to know what the hon. Member (Mr. C. V. Venkataramana Ayyangar) means by 'grass.'"

The hon. Mr. N. E. MARJORIBANKS :—"I take the hon. Member refers to straw."

Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR :—"I already said that it was paddy straw, and not crops as there were absolutely no grains whatever."

Public Service

Indianization of the Superior services.

* 255 Q.—Mr. J. A. SALDANHA : Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to place before the House statements showing the latest development as to the Indianization of the Superior services on the recommendations of the Lee Commission in the several departments of Government within and without the Secretariat, Revenue, Forests, Excise, Judicial, Legal, Educational, Agricultural, Industrial, Local Self-Government, etc., and to state the causes of delay, if any, in passing orders?

A.—A statement showing the recommendations of the Commission regarding the Indianization of the Superior services and the latest development so far as the Madras Presidency is concerned is appended.^a The Government have no information as to the cause of delay in the cases in which orders have not yet been passed.

Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—"This answer is evasive. . . ."

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—"The hon. Member has no right to comment on the answer given. I do not like that Member after Member should be told by the Chair that he is not entitled by the rules to comment on the answers furnished by the Government."

Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—"Referring to the appendix, it is said that the recommendation about the Indian Civil Service has been accepted and is being carried out. May I know, Sir, to what extent it has been carried out and in what manner?"

The hon. Mr. N. E. MARJORIBANKS :—"If the hon. Member will look into the Civil List, he will see that it is being carried out."

Mr. G. HARISARVOTTAMA RAO :—"Will the hon. the Revenue Member be pleased to state in definite terms what percentage of the Indian Civil Service is now indianized in view of the recommendation being carried out at present?"

The hon. Mr. N. E. MARJORIBANKS :—"I have not worked out the percentage. But the Civil List is available to everybody to make their calculations."

Mr. G. HARISARVOTTAMA RAO :—"I have no paid clerks, Sir. Now, with regard to the Indian Forest Service and the Indian Medical Service, it

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is stated that the orders of the Secretary of State have not yet been received. How long has the matter been with the Secretary of State, may I know, Sir ? ”

The hon. Mr. N. E. MARJORIBANKS :—“ I cannot say, Sir.”

Mr. G. HARISARVOTTAMA RAO :—“ On what date were these matters referred to the Secretary of State by the Local Government ? ”

The hon. Mr. N. E. MARJORIBANKS :—“ The Secretary of State was addressed by the Government of India on the Lee Commission Report, and not by the Local Government. However, there was certain correspondence between the Government of India and this Government and the Secretary of State on the subject, and the dates I cannot give without notice.”

Mr. G. HARISARVOTTAMA RAO :—“ May I know approximately the time at which the last part of the communications relating to these Services was sent from this Government to the Secretary of State ? ”

The hon. Mr. N. E. MARJORIBANKS :—“ I want also notice of that.”

Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR :—“ As regards the Indian Agricultural Service, may I know when the last Imperial officer was appointed to the Indian Agricultural Service ? ”

The hon. Mr. N. E. MARJORIBANKS :—“ If none of my hon. Colleagues on this Bench can give it, I must ask for notice, Sir.”

Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR :—“ May I know the percentage of Indians before and after the Lee Commission recommendations were accepted ? ”

The hon. Mr. N. E. MARJORIBANKS :—“ It is a varying rate, varying every year.”

Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR :—“ I would ask the Government whether they could give the percentage in the year just before the Lee Commission recommendations were accepted and in the present year ? ”

The hon. Mr. N. E. MARJORIBANKS :—“ Certainly, Sir.”

Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—“ May I enquire with reference to the Indian Forest Service what was the recommendation made by the Local Government ? ”

The hon. Mr. N. E. MARJORIBANKS :—“ The hon. Member must be aware that it is not open to us to publish the recommendations that we have made.”

Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—“ May I also point out that the last Civil List for January has not yet been issued even in the month of March. Last year, the list was published in April”

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—“ What is the hon. Member's supplementary question ? ”

Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—“ I want to know how the recommendation has been carried out ? ”

The hon. Mr. N. E. MARJORIBANKS :—“ The list is now issued every three months. It is a Quarterly Civil List.”

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Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—" The January list is not yet out ? "

The hon. Mr. N. E. MARJORIBANKS :—" I shall try to expedite it, if it is so."

Sriman BISWANATH DAS Mahasayo :—" With reference to the appendix regarding Indian Civil Service and the Indian Police Service, the answer is 'the recommendation has been accepted and is now being carried out.' May I know, Sir, when the Secretary of State decided the percentage stated there, and what is the present proportion of Indians to the Europeans ? "

The hon. Mr. N. E. MARJORIBANKS :—" I do not understand the question, Sir."

Sriman BISWANATH DAS Mahasayo :—" I am sorry, Sir. When did the Government of Madras receive the recommendation of the Secretary of State accepting the percentage stated here, and secondly, what is the present permanent strength of the Indians as compared to Europeans in the Indian Civil Service and also in the Indian Police Service ? "

The hon. Mr. N. E. MARJORIBANKS :—" I think there is some misapprehension in the matter. The proportion varies every year as recruitments are made, with the result that every year the proportion of Indians gets larger and larger till half and half or 60 to 40, as the case may be, is arrived at."

Srirangam Temple

Report of the Committee on repairs to Srirangam temple.

* 256 Q.—Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether the final report has been received from the Committee appointed to report about the repairs to the Srirangam temple and if so, what its recommendations are and when it is to be published ;

(b) whether the Government have any objection to lay on the table of this Council the reports made by the Department of Public Works authorities regarding the repairs that are urgently needed for this temple ; and

(c) whether the Government have passed final orders and if so, to what effect and whether any repairs are to be made ?

A.—(a) & (c) The Committee has made no report.

(b) Copies of the following letters with their enclosures are laid on the table * of the House :—

- (1) Letter No. R. 1000-1 F.F., dated 19th September 1925, from the Director of Public Health.
- (2) Letter No. 546, dated 18th September 1925, from the Superintendent, Archæological Survey of India.
- (3) Letter No. 2387/Wks.-25-U.P., dated 11th December 1925, from the Chief Engineer, Public Works Department.

11-45 a.m. Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR :—" With reference to (a), may I know, in view of the fact that this committee was appointed four years ago, whether the Government has received any interim report and what progress has been made in the matter ? "

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The hon. Mr. N. E. MARJORIBANKS :—" No, we have not received any report."

Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR :—" I am only asking whether any interim report has been received or in what stage the committee's proceedings are ? "

The hon. Mr. N. E. MARJORIBANKS :—" No interim report has been received. As regards the stage at which the committee's proceedings are, it is rather a difficult position. The Council passed a resolution that a committee should be appointed to consider the necessity for repairs from the archaeological, sanitary and engineering point of view. That information we gathered. We then found that one member of the committee owing to illness was prevented from taking part in it, and another member had gone on leave, and the question arose of reconstituting this committee. But we did not reconstitute it for the reason that, the information asked for, having been given by the various experts, we did not know what this committee would have to do beyond presenting the same information to the House."

• Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR :—" The Revenue Member was also a member of the committee."

The hon. Mr. N. E. MARJORIBANKS :—" I am not now ; I was."

Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR :—" Does not the reference also include the responsibility of the Government to make these reports in view of the inam villages of the temple having been resumed by Government ? "

The hon. Mr. N. E. MARJORIBANKS :—" That is exactly what it does not do."

Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR :—" In view of the statement of some officers published so far, which go to show that there is a real necessity for this, will the hon. the Revenue Member soon decide whether the Committee is to be reappointed or reformed ? "

The hon. Mr. N. E. MARJORIBANKS :—" No, Sir ; if it is asked whether it is proposed to appoint a committee to consider whether the Government is liable or not, the answer is in the negative."

Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR :—" Even with regard to the wording of the original resolution itself, the committee was asked to report after getting the information from the officers and the public if possible ; in view of that will not Government be pleased to re-appoint a committee ? "

The hon. Mr. N. E. MARJORIBANKS :—" It ought to have been done in 1923. It is no use now, as they could merely forward the reports to the Council which have already been laid on the table."

Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR :—" Is it not a fact that the committee met several times and even circulated an interim report ? "

The hon. Mr. N. E. MARJORIBANKS :—" I have not seen any report drafted by the committee or prepared for signature. What I had seen was a draft report wherein two or three members of the committee dealt with the question whether Government were liable or not."

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Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR :—" May I ask whether that report would be published ? "

The hon. Mr. N. E. MARJORIBANKS :—" It was not signed by anybody. "

Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR :—" It was signed by two or three out of five. If others have not cared to sign it can it not be published ? "

The hon. Mr. N. E. MARJORIBANKS :—" The only thing I have seen is a draft signed by nobody. "

Irrigation

Alleged prohibition of cultivation within 6 furlongs of Romperu drain.

* 257 Q.—Mr. P. ANJANEYULU : Will the hon. the Law Member and the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether cultivation within six furlongs of Romperu drain in the Bapatla taluk in the Guntur district is prohibited and if so, when and why ;

(b) whether the Revenue department gave lands within this orbit on " Darkhast " or otherwise to ryots for cultivation ;

(c) whether the owners of such lands also are now served with notice of eviction by the Revenue department ;

(d) whether it is a fact that the Revenue department has been compelling ryots cultivating these lands to pay penal tax from three to six times the usual rate ; and

(e) whether the Government have received any memorials or other representations on the subject, and if so, what orders have been passed thereon ?

A.—(a) Yes. The prohibition was introduced in 1925 to preserve sufficient water way to pass the large volume of flood water.

(b), (c) & (d) It is understood that there are patta lands within the prohibited area, but the prohibition does not apply to these lands. In 1923, the Collector allowed the cultivation during that particular year of certain waste lands encroached upon by certain Adi-Andhras, but the Government considered that such cultivations should not be allowed in the interests of the drain and issued the prohibition. If, in spite of the prohibition, encroachments continue to be made on these lands, they are presumably being penalized by the local authorities.

(e) The hon. Member's attention is drawn to the answers given to clauses (d) to (f) of question No. 110. No other representations were received on the subject.

Mr. P. ANJANEYULU :—" May I know whether in the case of Adi-Andhras who are allowed to clear and till these lands, pattas would be given to them ? "

The hon. Mr. N. E. MARJORIBANKS :—" I hope not, Sir. "

Mr. G. R. PREMAYYA :—" What would happen to those Adi-Andhras who had lands there before 1923 ? "

The hon. Mr. N. E. MARJORIBANKS :—" I cannot hold out any hope that they will not be evicted. "

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Mr. G. R. PREMAYYA :—" May I call the attention of the Government to the fact that several acres have been assigned to caste Hindus last year or the year before last? As regards the Adi-Andhras they have been occupying the lands for the last ten or fifteen years, and their claim has been disregarded."

The hon. Mr. N. E. MARJORIBANKS :—" I am not aware of it; it will be looked into."

Constitution of another division in Bezwada Circle.

* 258 Q.—Mr. P. ANJANEYULU: Will the hon. the Law Member and hon. the Minister for Development be pleased to state—

(a) whether it has been brought to the notice of the Government that the work of the Public Works Department in the Bezwada Circle is far too heavy for the present divisions to cope with it satisfactorily; and

(b) whether the Government have examined the question as to the desirability of constituting another division in the same circle?

A.—(a) & (b) Since the revival of the Guntur division sanctioned in April last no complaints have been received by Government as to the heaviness of the Public Works divisional charges in the Bezwada Circle.

Mr. P. ANJANEYULU :—" May I ask whether any reports have been received that the work in the circle is heavy? "

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" The hon. the Law Member is not present; but he has asked the hon. the Revenue Member to answer the supplemental questions for him."

The hon. Mr. N. E. MARJORIBANKS :—" It was complained that the work in all the delta divisions was too heavy and it was for that reason that the Guntur division was reconstituted."

Mr. A. KALESWARA RAO :—" May I know whether the Government are aware that the Kistna eastern division is felt too heavy for one Executive Engineer? "

The hon. Mr. N. E. MARJORIBANKS :—" We have had no specific report on that; I know all the delta divisions are heavy."

Mr. A. KALESWARA RAO :—" Will the Government get the information? "

The hon. Mr. N. E. MARJORIBANKS :—" Certainly, Sir, if the hon. Member wishes it."

Construction of the Kattalai Bed Regulator.

* 259 Q.—Mr. M. R. SETURATNAM AYYAR: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether the construction of the Kattalai Bed Regulator has been ordered to commence agreeably to the pronouncement made by the Collector of Trichinopoly under the orders of the Government in November 1926 that it will be commenced in this season;

(b) if not, when it is likely to be commenced and whether it will be commenced in this season; and

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(c) whether the Government are aware that the season for constructing the bed regulator in this year has already commenced ?

A.—(a) The actual construction of the regulator cannot be begun without the sanction of the Legislative Council to the expenditure involved.

(b) The cost of the regulator has been approximately estimated by the Chief Engineer at 13.75 lakhs, excluding cost of establishment, tools and plant, and indirect charges. The Government have decided to include a provision for the work in the estimates for 1927-28, but owing to the financial difficulties arising from the unfavourable character of the season the provision has been limited to one lakh.

(c) The Government are aware that the best season for construction is from January to May, and hope it may be possible to begin the work during that period.

Action taken on the resolution of the Tanjore Irrigation Advisory Board.

* 260 Q.—MR. S. MUTTAYYA MUDALIYAR: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state what action the Government have taken on the following resolution of the Tanjore Irrigation Advisory Board, dated 18th September 1926 :—

“That the Board consider that the Government should undertake all works necessary for the irrigation of wet lands without asking for contribution from any petitioner unless it be entirely intended for the betterment of drainage of any particular individual and unless the work is a luxury ?”

A.—The attention of the hon. Member is invited to the answer to question No. 134.

MR. S. MUTTAYYA MUDALIYAR :—“From the answer to the question No. 134 to which I am referred, may I ask the hon. Member what classes of works are considered to be necessary for the irrigation of lands in the delta ?”

THE HON. MR. N. E. MARJORIBANKS :—“It means those that are necessary in the general interests and not for any particular ryot.”

MR. S. MUTTAYYA MUDALIYAR :—“What I ask is whether irrigation canals, conservancy of rivers, digging channels, building head sluices, these are works necessary for the irrigation of lands. Of these, what class do the Government consider to be necessary for the irrigation of lands, and whether digging channels is included in the works considered necessary ?”

THE HON. MR. N. E. MARJORIBANKS :—“Certainly, if the channel is necessary in the general interests of the system.”

MR. S. MUTTAYYA MUDALIYAR :—“May I ask how many channels are being dug in the Tanjore district or any other district by Government every year or whether they are digging any channels at all ?”

THE HON. MR. N. E. MARJORIBANKS :—“I must ask for notice of that.”

MR. S. MUTTAYYA MUDALIYAR :—“Then may I take it if the channels necessary for the irrigation of lands are not dug by the Government, the answer given is not correct ?”

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The hon. Mr. N. E. MARJORIBANKS :—" Not in all cases, Sir."

Mr. S. MUTTAYYA MUDALIYAR :—" May I ask whether in any case they dug channels? "

The hon. Mr. N. E. MARJORIBANKS :—" If the Government did not, it does not prove that the answer is incorrect. Government do dig channels; but what is stated here is if the particular work benefits only one or two individuals they do not consider that as a work which should be paid for by the general tax-payer."

Mr. S. MUTTAYYA MUDALIYAR :—" Suppose a channel irrigates two or three villages and the lands of 200 or 300 landholders, I ask whether Government will consider that work, according to their criterion, as work necessary in the general interest? "

The hon. Mr. N. E. MARJORIBANKS :—" All these details must be considered with reference to the actual facts of the case. It is impossible to lay down any proposition. What applies to one case may not apply to another; each must be considered on its own merits. I believe that is the rule which is usually followed with regard to irrigation works."

Mr. S. MUTTAYYA MUDALIYAR :—" Then, I put the general question whether digging up channels for the irrigation of certain villages is a necessary work."

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" That is a hypothetical question."

Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—" May I make an appeal to the Chair, Sir, in connexion with the reply given by the hon. the Revenue Member to my question as to the recruitment for higher services, 'Look into the Civil List'. First of all, my objection is this, that civil lists are issued quarterly, and those issued in January are not yet available. My question was as to the policy of Government, not to what was actually done by Government."

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" I do not see any reason why the hon. Member should be given an opportunity to make a statement upon the answer given by the Government."

UNSTARRED QUESTIONS

Civil Veterinary Department

Veterinary Inspectors in Cuddapah district.

261 Q.—Mr. A. PARASURAMA RAO: Will the hon. the Minister for Development be pleased to state—

(a) the number of Veterinary Inspectors working in the district of Cuddapah;

(b) the approximate area over which each of the Inspectors has to render service;

(c) whether any and which of the Inspectors working in Cuddapah district know the vernacular of the district;

(d) whether any Inspector who belongs to Malabar or some other district of the West Coast and who does not know a word of Telugu has been sent to Cuddapah; and

(e) whether the Government will consider the desirability of concentrating all the staff in one or two districts?

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- 4.—(a) There are no Veterinary Inspectors in the department. The subordinates referred to in the question are presumably touring Veterinary Assistants. There are three such assistants in the Cuddapah district.
- (b) One of the Veterinary Assistant Surgeons has jurisdiction over two taluks, while the remaining two have jurisdiction over three taluks each.
- (c) & (d) Two of the Veterinary Assistant Surgeons know Telugu. The third, a native of South Malabar, has been working in the Telugu districts for over a year. Government are not aware of the extent of his knowledge of Telugu.
- (e) Every district requires veterinary aid and it will not be possible to concentrate all the staff in one or two districts.

Municipal Councils

Payment of gratuities to Municipal servants.

262 Q.—Mr. J. A. SALDANHA: Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that the Municipal Account Code limits the payment of gratuity on retirement to Municipal servants to a maximum of nine months' pay even when the service is over 30 years and prohibits payments of gratuities when the service is less than 20 years, while Government servants with less than ten years are paid gratuities at a month's pay for each year of service and proportionate pension when the service exceeds ten years;

(b) on what grounds the differential treatment of Government and Municipal servants as to pension and gratuity is based; and

(c) whether Government have received representations from any Municipal servants complaining about the hardship caused by such treatment and what action have Government taken or propose to take?

A —(a) Yes.

(b) The difference in treatment is due to the difference in the nature of the services. Service under Government is pensionable and the gratuity admissible to Government servants forms part of the pensionary scheme. The limits as to gratuity admissible to municipal servants laid down in the Municipal Account Code apply to municipal servants whose services are not pensionable. Municipal servants have however the benefit of a provident fund and are paid a bonus in addition to their contributions to the fund.

(c) No such representation appears to have been received by Government. In specially deserving cases the Government sanction the payment of gratuity by municipal councils in excess of the limits laid down in the Municipal Account Code.

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Assignment of Lands

Alleged improper assignment of porambokes in Cheyyar taluk, North Arcot district.

263 Q.—Mr. T. ADINARAYANA CHETTIYAR : Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that the villagers of Sengadu village in the Cheyyar taluk, North Arcot district, petitioned to the District Collector and to the Board of Revenue about the improper assignment of certain porambokes on 9th August 1925 and 20th December 1925 ;

(b) whether it is a fact that S. Nos. 148 and 149 of the Sengadu village are classified as tank poramboke and pasture land ;

(c) whether it is a fact that this is the only pasture land available to the petitioners ;

(d) whether it is a fact that the karnam of the village got assigned to himself four acres and to another four acres ; and

(e) whether it is a fact that the ryots of the village objected to these assignments and what was the action taken on their objections ?

A.—(a) The Government are not aware of such petitions.

(b) to (e) The answer to clause (b) is in the negative.

The land is classified as assessed ' dry ' and ' rock '.

Grants of land to ex-service men.

264 Q.—Mr. J. A. SALDANHA : With reference to question No. 2467 answered on 4th September 1926, will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state what orders have been passed on the representation of the Kanara Indian Christian Civic League on the question of grants of land to ex-service men and landless poor ?

A.—The requests made by the Kanara Indian Christian Civic League were—

(a) that non-combatants who owing to ignorance of the rules did not apply within the time allowed for the concessions granted to ex-military men might be allowed the concessions though their applications might be out of time,

(b) that the time allowed for building houses under the rules for the grant of house-sites in the South Kanara district should be extended from six months to three years and that the restriction against using the site for cultivation should be relaxed,

(c) that the Indian Christian landless labouring classes should be allowed the same facilities as members of the depressed classes for the purpose of securing lands.

The Government decided that there were not sufficient grounds for extending the period during which the concessions would be given to non-combatants ; that there was no need to grant request (b) as a poor man could ordinarily put up a thatched shed in six months' time and as the lands were granted as house sites and not for cultivation ; and that the South Kanara Christians as a body could not be treated as depressed for the reason that there were poor amongst them as there are in every other community.

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Constitution of Districts, Divisions and Taluks

Constitution of the Pamarru taluk as part of the Kistna district.

265 Q.—Mr. A. KALESWARA RAO: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) when the Pamarru taluk will be constituted as part of the Kistna district; and

(b) whether the Government intends to include Pamarru taluk in Gudivada Revenue Division instead of in Nuzvid Division, as Pamarru is only 8 miles from Gudivada whereas it is more than 40 miles from Nuzvid?

A.—(a) The formation of the taluk has been postponed for want of accommodation for the office. The plans and estimates for extension to the Deputy Tahsildar's office at Pamarru to make it suitable as a taluk office were approved in February 1926, and a provision of Rs. 30,000 has been made in the current year's budget.

(b) There is no intention at present to include Pamarru taluk in Gudivada division. If experience proves the Nuzvid division to be unwieldy the question of the redistribution of the taluks and divisions will be considered.

Economic condition including prices and wages

Alleged decrease of population and acreage of holdings in Badvel taluk, Cuddapah district.

266 Q.—Mr. A. PARASURAMA RAO: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that in Badvel taluk of Cuddapah district the population and acreage of holdings have been decreasing gradually for the past two decades;

(b) whether such a decrease in population is due to people migrating to other places for want of livelihood;

(c) whether such a decrease in the acreage of holdings is due to want of irrigation and other facilities for carrying on cultivation;

(d) for how long such an unsatisfactory state has existed; and

(e) whether the Government will be pleased to call for a report from the Collector of Cuddapah to investigate into the causes of such a decrease and the ways and means to remedy further decrease?

A.—(a) The population and occupied area for the years 1900-01, 1910-11 and 1920-21 are given below:—

		Census year.		
		1901.	1911.	1921.
Population ...	...	89,361	95,896	90,790
		Year.		
		1900-01.	1910-11.	1920-21.
Occupied area	...	105,484	132,987	132,416

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(b) The hon. Member's attention is drawn to paragraphs 41, 47 and 49 of the Census Report for Madras, Volume XIII, Part I. The chief reason for the decrease of population in 1921 below the figure of 1911 was the influenza epidemic of 1918.

(c), (d) & (e) There has been no perceptible decrease in the occupied area.

Land Revenue

Reduction of tree-tax of 2-C trees.

267 Q.—Mr. T. M. NARAYANASWAMI PILLAI: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state the action taken by the Government on the resolution of this Council, dated 15th December 1925, regarding the reduction of tree-tax of 2-C trees?

A.—The hon. Member is referred to item 5 of the statement laid on the table of the House, of resolutions passed by the Legislative Council during the last session and the action taken thereon by the Government.

Village Establishments

District Village Officers' Conference, Cuddapah.

268 Q.—Mr. A. PARASURAMA RAO: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government have received a copy of the resolutions passed at a meeting of the fourth Cuddapah District Village Officers' Conference held on 30th December 1926 in Proddatur, Cuddapah districts;

(b) what action was taken by the Government on the several subjects resolved upon at the said Conference;

(c) whether the said resolutions were sent to the Collector of Cuddapah for his remarks;

(d) whether the remarks of the Collector were received thereon and if so, whether the Government will be pleased to place them on the table;

(e) whether the Government will be pleased to state if the order referred to in resolution 3-A passed at the said Conference is applicable to the Cuddapah district only or if there is similar order obtaining in other districts; and

(f) whether the hon. Member will be pleased to state if village officers are paid any travelling allowance every time they are summoned to appear before the tahsildar or whether they are paid only during jamabandi time; if the latter, whether the hon. Member proposes to pass orders that the village officers be paid travelling allowance every time they are summoned to appear whether at jamabandi time or otherwise?

A.—(a), (b), (c), (d) & (e) The Government have not received a copy of the resolutions referred to.

(f) Under the rules now in force village officers are not eligible for any travelling or halting allowance for their attendance before the tahsildar. There is no proposal to modify the existing rules.

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Irrigation*Tippayapalem project, Kurnool district.*

269 Q.—Mr. K. KOTI REDDI: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Tippayapalem project in Kurnool district has been given up and if so, why; and

(b) the amount already spent on the project?

A.--(a) Yes. The project was sanctioned in 1924. After commencement of the work it was brought to the notice of Government that there would be an excess over estimate of Rs. 46,500 under land compensation charges. It was also reported that the tank would not fill in all years and that the anticipated development of irrigation could not be fully realized. The Board of Revenue and the Chief Engineer for Irrigation recommended the abandonment of the scheme and the Government agreed with them.

(b) The booked outlay to the end of 1925-26 was Rs. 59,994. Figures of debits, if any, that are likely to be raised during 1926-27 and of credits on account of the value of materials at site and sale of lands are not available, but it is expected that the unprofitable outlay will be in the neighbourhood of Rs. 50,000.

III

[*Note.*—An asterisk (*) at the commencement of a speech indicates revision by the Member.]

ANNOUNCEMENT REGARDING SPEEDY PUBLICATION OF PROCEEDINGS

12
noon.

*The hon. the PRESIDENT :—“ Before proceeding with the orders of the day, I wish to make the following observations.

“ The delay in the publication of final copies of the proceedings of the Legislative Council has been engaging my attention for some time, and I think that a change in the procedure now adopted is necessary. Until November 1922, type-written transcripts of speeches made by Members of the Legislative Council were sent to them for such corrections as they desired to make before printing. In November of that year, it was decided to send transcripts of each day's proceedings of the Council direct to the press and to obtain proof copies thereof for circulation to all Members of the Legislative Council. This is the system now in force. Under it, the Members are allowed to keep the proofs with them for five days for correcting their speeches. They make such corrections as they like in the proof and return the same to the Council Office. Often, the proofs are not returned in five days. The Council Office carries out the corrections in a central proof copy and sends it to the press with orders to strike off final copies. The press originally agreed to give proof copies on the evening of the day following that on which it received the transcripts from the Council Office; but in practice, this has not been carried out. The result has been that final copies of the proceedings of the Legislative Council do not see the light of day at any time within four or five weeks of each meeting.

“ I am of opinion that the enormous delay in the publication of the final proceedings can be avoided by adopting the following procedure. Transcripts of speeches will be circulated to the Members making the speeches as

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soon as they are ready, and in any case, before 11 a.m. on the day following that on which the speeches were made. Members will be requested to return these transcripts within 24 hours after receipt thereof with their corrections, if any. In case any Member is leaving the station on the day on which he makes his speech, he is requested to meet the Assistant Secretary at 5 p.m. the same day and correct the transcript of his speech and return it to the Assistant Secretary. The corrections will immediately be carried out by the Council Office, and a corrected copy of the proceedings will be sent without delay in type to the press for printing. I propose to try this system with effect from to-day."

IV

ORDERS OF THE DAY.

Non-official Business.

(1)

AMENDMENTS TO THE STANDING ORDERS OF THE MADRAS
LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" With reference to item 1 of the Orders of the Day, viz., amendments to Standing Orders 40 and 49 of which notice has been given by Mr. Saldanha, I will read out amendment to Standing Order 40 first :

New clause after clause (4).

After clause (4) add the following :—

' (5) The Secretary of the Legislative Council shall be the ex-officio Secretary of the Select Committee and shall send notices of its meeting and conduct all correspondence under the direction of the Chairman.'

" I wish to know whether the hon. Member has the leave of the Council. (*After a pause*). Since no objection is taken, the Member has the leave of the House."

* Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—" I am not asking for leave to introduce my second amendment, Sir."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" I am glad the hon. Member is not asking for leave to introduce his amendment to Standing Order 49."

" So then, there is only one amendment before the House. In accordance with Standing Order 77, the draft amendment may now be referred to a Select Committee. The Select Committee will consist of the President, the Deputy President and the Advocate-General as ex-officio Members and the Council will elect six Members by means of the single transferable vote in accordance with the regulations framed in this behalf under Standing Order 77. Nomination papers may be handed in to the Secretary not later than 2 p.m. to-day. I nominate Diwan Bahadur M. Krishnan Nayar—one of the Members of the Panel of Chairmen—as a Member of the Committee."

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(2)

Bills.

(1) THE MADRAS TUTICORIN PORT TRUST ACT (AMENDMENT) BILL, 1924.

* Mr. S. SATYAMURTI :—" I move for leave to introduce a Bill to amend the Tuticorin Port Trust Act, 1924 "

* Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR :—" I second it. "

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" Does any hon. Member object to leave being granted ? (*After a pause*). As no objection is taken, I will now put the motion to the House."

The motion was adopted and leave was granted.

* Mr. S. SATYAMURTI :—" Sir, I now introduce the Bill to amend the Tuticorin Port Trust Act, 1924, and move that the Bill be read in Council. " .

* Diwan Bahadur M. KRISHNAN NAYAR :—" I rise to a point of order. I suppose my hon. Friend is actually introducing the Bill now. Do I understand it aright ? (The hon. the President : ' Yes '.) Then, my submission is that it cannot be done now for this reason. We do not know what the Bill contains. We simply know this: that the hon. Member wishes to obtain leave for introducing an amending Bill relating to the Tuticorin Port Trust Act. We are absolutely in the dark as to what that Bill is and what its provisions are: it has not yet been published in the *Fort St. George Gazette*. None of us, at any rate I am not, are supplied with a copy of the amending Bill. I do not know what its provisions are. The rule specifically says that if a non-official Member wants to introduce a Bill, he should, first of all, obtain leave of the Council to introduce it. (Mr. S. Satyamurti : ' Which rule ? ') If a Member of Government wants to introduce a Bill, with the consent of His Excellency, the Bill may be published in the *Fort St. George Gazette*. When a Bill is so published, leave of the Council to introduce it is not necessary."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" Does the hon. Member refer to any rule or Standing Order ? "

* Diwan Bahadur M. KRISHNAN NAYAR :—" Oh, yes."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" While the hon. Member is making an investigation into the rules and Standing Orders pertinent to the matter, I will call upon the Advocate-General to state if he has any objection. "

* Diwan Bahadur M. KRISHNAN NAYAR :—" If the Advocate-General agrees with me, there is an end of the matter. "

* The hon. the ADVOCATE-GENERAL :—" Mr. President, Sir, I do raise an objection to the motion for the introduction of the Bill."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT (*seeing Mr. Krishnan Nayar rising to speak*) :—" The hon. Member will resume his seat. We may hear the Advocate-General and in the meantime the hon. Member may be ready with his references to Standing Orders or rules. Is he ready with the rules ? "

* Diwan Bahadur M. KRISHNAN NAYAR :—" Oh, yes."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" The hon. Member is requested to quote the rules and Standing Orders on which he relies."

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* Diwan Bahadur M. KRISHNAN NAYAR :—" Sir, Standing Order 38 says :

' (1) At any time after a Bill has been published in the Gazette.'

" I may say, Sir, that the Bill has not been published in the Gazette yet. "

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" Does the hon. Member thereby infer that the rule makes it obligatory to publish a Bill and not to introduce a Bill until publication ? "

* Diwan Bahadur M. KRISHNAN NAYAR :—" Yes. "

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" Where has it been stated like that ? "

* Diwan Bahadur M. KRISHNAN NAYAR :—" It is obvious. *After the publication of the Bill*, the Member in charge of the Bill may introduce it. Even this has to be done after giving six clear days' notice to the Secretary. So that, first of all, there must be publication in the Gazette and then, after the lapse of the six days' notice period the Member in charge may introduce it "

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" Will the hon. Member kindly refer to Rule 19 which contemplates the case of a publication with the consent of the Governor previous to the introduction ? "

* Diwan Bahadur M. KRISHNAN NAYAR :—" Oh, yes. But has that been done? It has not been done here. "

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" That is the case contemplated under Standing Order 38. Is it not? The hon. Member will please refer to Rule 20. "

* Diwan Bahadur M. KRISHNAN NAYAR :—" Yes. Rule 20 says :

' As soon as may be after a Bill has been introduced, the Bill, unless it has already been published, shall be published in the Gazette. '

" But paragraph 70 at page 28 of Volume II of the Legislative Council Manual says :

' (2) When introducing a Bill, the Member in charge of it shall move that the Bill be read in Council.

' (3) The principle of the Bill and its general provisions may then be discussed . . . '

" Now, how can we discuss the principles of the Bill and its general provisions without knowing what the Bill is? We are absolutely in the dark as to what the Bill is. "

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" That may be a reason for adjourning the introduction. But the question is whether a Member is entitled to introduce a Bill immediately after leave is granted. The hon. Member's arguments may be a ground for postponing the motion. "

* Diwan Bahadur M. KRISHNAN NAYAR :—" My hon. Friend now wants to introduce the Bill and when he introduces it, this Council has got the right and is at liberty to discuss its general provisions. How can we discuss them? Is it possible to discuss the principles of a Bill and its general provisions without knowing what they are? That goes to the root of the matter. My hon. Friend has not yet got his Bill published either in the *Fort St. George Gazette* with the consent of His Excellency or even privately. The practice for non-official Members when they introduce private Bills has been to print and circulate copies of their Bills to Members. Even that has not been done in this case. Therefore, how is it possible for any Member to discuss the provisions of a Bill which he has not seen and of which he has

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no idea whatever. That, I submit, goes to the root of the matter and I object to the taking up of the Bill for consideration at this stage."

13-16 P.M. * Mr. T. R. VENKATARAMA SASTRIYAR :—" Sir, there are two authorities by which this Council is governed in dealing with questions of legislation. The one is the rules framed under the Government of India Act and the other is the Standing Orders framed for regulating the conduct of business in this Council. Standing Orders 37 and 38 govern the matter now under consideration. For the moment, I shall put aside the Legislative Council Rules reserving them for consideration after dealing with the effect of the Standing Orders as they stand. Under Standing Order 37, leave to introduce a Bill is granted by the Council at once, if it is not opposed. If it is opposed, after a brief explanatory statement from the Member who moves and from the Member who opposes the motion, the question will be put to the vote of the House and leave granted or refused as the case may be. Let us take the case of a Bill for which the leave is granted either after opposition or without opposition. When shall we reach the next stage of introduction of the Bill in the Council? Standing Order 38 (1) says, that at any time after a Bill has been published in the Gazette, the Member in charge of the Bill may introduce it after giving six clear days' notice to the Secretary. I submit that this will apply to two cases, viz. (1) where the Bill has been already published by order of the Governor under Rule 18 of the Legislative Council Rules and (2) where the Bill has been published after leave to introduce has been granted by the Council. Hon. Members may be aware that when leave to introduce a Bill is granted, it used to be published as a matter of rule in the old days and is published as a matter of practice now. In either case, Standing Order 38 will apply. The Member will have to give six clear days' notice to the Secretary to introduce the Bill in Council. If you turn to the Rules and Standing Orders as they stood before the present Rules and Standing Orders were passed, it will be found that they provided for six clear days' notice to the Secretary, before introducing the Bill in Council after publication, either under the orders of the Governor under the rule corresponding to the present Rule 18 or under a rule for publication as soon as leave to introduce was given. So that, *if the Standing Order 38 stood alone without anything else to throw light upon it*, my submission to the Council and to you, Mr. President, will be that no motion to introduce the Bill can be made unless the Bill has been previously published. The very first clause of Standing Order 38 says, that at any time after a Bill has been published in the Gazette, the Member in charge of the Bill may introduce it after giving six clear days' notice to the Secretary. All the further stages described in clauses (2) to (5) of Standing Order 38 will apply only to a case of the Bill which has satisfied the first clause of the Standing Order, viz., that it has been published in one form or other.

" Now, Sir, you have drawn the attention of the House to Rule 20 and I think the hon. the Mover also referred to that rule for the purpose of showing that publication may succeed rather than precede the introduction of the Bill in Council."

* Mr. S. SATYAMURTI :—" Either succeed or precede."

* Mr. T. R. VENKATARAMA SASTRIYAR :—" I accept that. As I have stated, if the Bill had been printed, Standing Order 38 will apply."

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* The hon. The PRESIDENT :—" Is it under any Rule or Standing Order that the Bill is published immediately after leave is given? It is only by a convention, I think."

* Mr. T. R. VENKATARAMA SASTRIYAR :—" Now, there is no rule which directs publication. In the old Manual there was a rule under which after leave to introduce had been granted, if nothing further was done, the Bill was printed, as a matter of course. If it was not printed, there was nothing to prevent the Member introducing the Bill to ask for publication and then it had to be published."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" In certain Business Rules relating to the procedure regarding Bills made by the Local Government, I see that there is a rule, viz., Rule 52, which says that as soon as may be after a Bill has been introduced, the Bill, unless it has already been published, shall be published in the Gazette by the Law Department. This is only a repetition of Rule 20 of the Council Rules and shows that even in these Government instructions it is contemplated that a Bill may first be introduced and then be published."

* Mr. T. R. VENKATARAMA SASTRIYAR :—" I was only referring to the practice. As to Rule 20, it cannot be over-ridden by any of the Standing Orders. Rule 20 lays an obligation to publish the Bill after introduction. But this House is bound not only by Rule 20, but also by Standing Order 38. I shall now submit what the result of reading the two together will be. You must take it that Standing Order 38 applies only to the case of a Bill which has been already printed. Therefore in that Standing Order there is no procedure prescribed for unprinted Bills. The course to be followed in regard to them is not prescribed in that Standing Order at all. The result of this construction of Standing Order 38 is that there is no Standing Order covering the case of unprinted Bills and under Standing Order 79, the hon. the President may give direction as to the course which may be adopted in the case as it is not provided for by the Rules and the Standing Orders."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" Under Standing Order 79?"

* Mr. T. R. VENKATARAMA SASTRIYAR :—" Of course, for, any direction which the President might give must conform to the Standing Orders and the Rules. Rule 20 has to be taken into consideration by the President in any direction which he may give under Standing Order 79. As a result of that Rule, the Member in charge of the Bill might introduce the Bill and should be permitted to announce it, but no further stages are provided for under the Rules at all. The indication afforded by Rule 20 itself is that the further stages can be reached only after publication which follows immediately after *introduction* by the Member in charge of the Bill. Only to that extent can the indication in Rule 20 modify the inference from Standing Order 38, that the Bill should not be introduced before publication. The reason of the thing is clear. I agree with my hon. Friend, Diwan Bahadur Krishnan Nayar, that if introduction under Rule 20 means not merely the formal announcement of the fact of introduction, but also the further discussion of the principles of the Bill and its general provisions which are referred to in the third clause of Standing Order 38, that stage cannot be reached now. The principle of the Bill may be discussed only by people who have already studied it. The old rules provided not merely for publication, but also for supplying each Member with a copy

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of the Bill in order to enable the Member to take part in the discussion of the Bill after its introduction. When you have not published it, it is impossible really to usefully discuss the principles of the Bill. So that, if it is a question of the President ruling under Standing Order 79 as to what should be the practice in regard to such kinds of Bills, I would submit, that when a Member has said 'I introduce the Bill' as he is entitled to say on the inference drawn from Rule 20, the President may direct that, at that stage, the Bill may be published and the further discussion of its principles and general provisions may be taken up on a date fixed by the President to suit the convenience of all the parties concerned. Except to that extent, Rule 20 does not alter the procedure laid down in Standing Order 38 which insists on publication, before discussion, of the general provisions and principles of the Bill and reference to the Select Committee. The discussion of the Bill in the Council by the Members is not merely with reference to their own ideas on the subject but also with reference to the wishes of the electorates which have sent them here. I do not know whether that is the case or not with reference to this Bill. I do not speak on the merits of this particular Bill. But there may be Bills in regard to which the Members might require an opportunity of consulting their constituents. Therefore, when the President gives a ruling on a matter like this, he must take into account the necessities of the case and rule that the Bill must be published before the further stages of the Bill, namely, the discussion of its principles and the reference of the Bill to the Select Committee, are proceeded with."

* Diwan Bahadur M. KRISHNAN NAYAR :—" May I submit, Sir . . . ? "

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" Any new points ? "

* Diwan Bahadur M. KRISHNAN NAYAR :—" In further elucidation of the points raised . . . "

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" It is unnecessary. Generally, no Member is allowed to speak twice on any subject. The President has to give a ruling on a point of order and the explanations of the law given by hon. Members are only intended to help the President to come to a conclusion. He has already heard the hon. Member Mr. Krishnan Nayar and he does not propose to delay the Council further unless the hon. Member has anything new to say."

* Mr. S. SATYAMURTI :—" Sir, the extreme contention advanced by the Advocate-General and by my hon. Friend below the gangway is that, under the Rules and the Standing Orders as they stand, no motion that the Bill be read in Council can ever be made unless that Bill has already been published in the *Fort St. George Gazette* under the orders of the Governor and six clear days' notice of the motion is given to the Secretary, or in the alternative, he can move the motion after an inchoate procedure for which there is no sanction in the Rules or the Standing Orders, under which publication takes place formally after the motion for leave to introduce the Bill is passed by the Council. My submission to you, Sir, is that neither under the Rules nor under the Standing Orders as they stand is there any such provision. I submit, Sir, that, when my hon. Friend the Advocate-General wants to curtail the powers of this Council, he must quote chapter and verse and not advance the argument that there is a lacuna in the Rules or the Standing Orders. He is too much of a lawyer not to concede that we must not presume that there is a lacuna in our Rules and Standing Orders, unless there is no other way of explaining them.

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"Sir, let us turn to Rule 20 which deals with this matter. Rule 20 says that :

'As soon as may be after a Bill has been introduced, the Bill, unless it has already been published, shall be published in the Gazette.'

"I ask my hon. Friend, the Advocate-General, very respectfully to construe the clause 'unless it has already been published'. Is it a surplusage? Is it redundant? Does it or does it not contemplate in terms, Mr. President, that Bills may be introduced into this Council whether publication has taken place before that motion or not? Otherwise, Mr. President, this rule, especially that clause, becomes absolutely meaningless."

* Mr. T. R. VENKATARAMA SASTRIYAR :—"I conceded that point."

* Mr. S. SATYAMURTI :—"My hon Friend concedes that. He has made my task considerably easy. He has also conceded that the Rule must over-ride the Standing Order. The power to make Standing Orders vested in us is governed by a provision in the Government of India Act, and to the extent to which the Standing Orders are inconsistent with the Rules, they are void. Therefore, Sir, it is contemplated that I can make the motion to introduce the Bill whether previous publication has taken place or not. I should like to ask my hon. Friend what is the legal objection to my motion now. I am not now dealing with the objection of my hon. Friend below the gangway about the comparative ignorance of the House about the provisions of this Bill. Before I sit down, I shall address one word about that point. I am only dealing with the question of law, and I claim, as our Rules and Standing Orders at present stand, I have a right to make this motion now.

"I want to make two more submissions, for your consideration, on this matter. As the Rules and Standing Orders stand, there is no power in you or in your office to compel publication of a Bill, leave to introduce which has been given by this House, in the *Fort St. George Gazette*. Suppose my hon. Friend says he would not publish it; what is to happen? This House has no inherent right to order publication, in the *Fort St. George Gazette*, of every Bill for which leave is given. I shall now invite your attention to a rule which was found in the earlier rules under which you were working, that is, before the present Reforms. Rule 32 said, Mr. President—

'If the motion for leave to introduce a Bill be carried, the Secretary shall cause the Bill with the Statement of Objects and Reasons and any connected papers to be printed and communicated to each of the Members and shall also cause the Bill and the statement of Objects and Reasons to be published in the *Fort St. George Gazette* in English and in such vernacular languages as the Governor may direct.'

"Therefore there was an officer of this House authorized to direct statutory publication. There is no such provision now."

* Mr. T. R. VENKATARAMA SASTRIYAR :—"It is there under Rule 20."

* Mr. S. SATYAMURTI :—"I think, Sir, my hon Friend is helping me further. That rule contemplates publication after introduction. I quite agree with the hon. Member. Rule 20 does authorize publication. I therefore say that when I make this motion and this House agrees to it, then, it becomes the statutory right of your office to insist under Rule 20 on the publication of this Bill and not till then. That rule contemplates statutory publication after such introduction.

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"On this matter, just one more submission to you, Sir. In the earlier Rules to which I am referring, in Rule 34 there was a specific statutory prohibition against introduction motions before publication :

'Provided no Bill shall be introduced until fifteen clear days have elapsed from the date of their publication under Rule 32 or 30 as the case may be.'

"Therefore the earlier Rules contemplated, in so many words, statutory publication and a prohibition statutorily of introduction motions until and unless there had been previous publication. My hon. Friend is too much of a lawyer not to contemplate that when the authors of these Rules omitted these provisions they were acting with some intelligence and therefore they omitted them deliberately. It was not that their mind was not drawn to them. My hon. Friend wants to suggest to this House and to you that there is a lacuna. Lacuna of what? Of a provision already existing in the Rules which they were re-enacting in a different form to suit the purposes of the new Act. My hon. Friend wants you to believe that the authors of the Rules under Government of India Act deliberately omitted the stages of publication before introduction, leaving it to the Standing Orders to make provision for publication or not.

"Standing Order 38 seems to contemplate two different classes of cases. Standing Order 38, clause (1) says :

'At any time after a Bill has been published in the Gazette, the Member in charge of the Bill may introduce it after giving six clear days' notice to the Secretary.'

"I submit, Sir, that this is the only Standing Order which provides for six days' notice being given in the case of introduction motions. If it is so, that is one statutory procedure prescribed by our Standing Orders, that there should be some time elapsing between the publication which takes place under His Excellency the Governor's orders without reference to this Council at all and its introduction in Council. That is a matter to which I would like to invite your attention. This House is guided by one of the two ways. One way is that of my leaving at your office, notice with regard to Bills, of fifteen days in the case of Transferred subjects and of one month in the case of Reserved subjects. But there is also another kind of notice when I go to the Governor and get his authority to get the Bill published in the *Fort St. George Gazette*, in which case, in order to guarantee that your office may not be taken by surprise, the Standing Order provides for six clear days' notice. That does not contemplate, in my humble judgment, the case of Bills which take the normal course of leaving notice at your office.

"Then, under clause (2), when introducing a Bill, the Member in charge shall move that the Bill be read in Council. I lay some emphasis on the indefinite article both in clauses (1) and (2). In the first clause it is said that 'at any time after a Bill has been published the Member in charge of the Bill may introduce it.' Then clause (2) says 'when introducing a Bill', and it does not refer to Bills which had already been published. In clauses (1) and (2) the indefinite article is used first and afterwards the definite article. In clauses (3) and (4) the definite article is used throughout. As a matter of English, I submit that clauses (1) and (2) contemplate two classes of Bills, whereas clauses (3) and (4) contemplate the same class of Bills.

"One more submission, Sir. Standing Order 41 (3) says that the Select Committee shall, in their report, state among other things whether the publication directed by the Rules or by the Council has taken place. What does it

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mean? If my hon. Friend the Advocate-General's contention that introduction can never take place without previous publication is correct, why in the name of common sense is the Select Committee asked to report whether the publication directed by the rules or by the Council has taken place or not. I submit, Mr. President, that the Standing Order throws considerable light and helps my position that publication may have taken place before introduction or may not have taken place and it may take place according to Rule 20, after introduction of the Bill and appointment of the Select Committee."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT:—"What is the publication under direction of the Council, contemplated by S.O. 41 (3)?"

* MR. S. SATYAMURTI:—"That is publication under Rule 20."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT:—"I am not able to understand how the Council has power under that Rule to order publication."

* MR. S. SATYAMURTI:—"I submit, I see the force of the point the hon. President raises, if I may say so respectfully. I merely rely upon the other point that the Select Committee in any case is asked to report as to the publication. If, according to my hon. Friend's contention, publication must necessarily take place before the introduction stage, this provision is redundant."

"As regards the arguments of my hon. Friend below the gangway which, I am surprised to see, the Advocate-General also adopted, I hope that they deal really with the point whether this Council should pass my motion or not. It is for the House to decide the matter. I am not now urging that, because I make that motion, the Council must necessarily pass it at this stage. A motion for adjournment may be made and I may not oppose it. There may be some Bills which may not be controversial and which the House may pass practically unanimously, in which case, we may finish all stages, as we have done more than once, at one and the same time. Therefore, I do claim that so far as my hon. Friend's point below the gangway is concerned that it is not possible now to discuss this Bill, I hope to convince him, if I get a ruling in my favour that the motion may be made now, that this Bill is so non-controversial that we may accept its introduction now. At this stage, I am merely submitting the argument that under the Standing Orders, there is nothing to prohibit the motion for introduction being made now. While the hon. the Advocate-General contends that Standing Order 79 must come into force, I beg of you to bear this in mind, that Standing Order 79 should not be lightly invoked. It is only in cases where the Rules and the Standing Orders under the Act do not make any provision that that Standing Order comes into play. It is somewhat a tail order given by the Advocate-General that, with regard to legislation and important Bills, we must assume that our predecessors in this House who made the Standing Orders were negligent of a necessary provision and that therefore you should make a provision."

"I submit, Sir, that in law I am entitled to make this motion at this stage"

* The hon. Mr. T. E. MOIR:—"Mr. President, Sir, if I intervene in this debate it is because the hon. the Law Member is absent and because I happen to be for the time being the Member in charge of this Bill so far as the Government are concerned. I do not propose now to refer to the question of

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the convenience of the House or to the information which ought to be in the hands of all Members of the House before they are called upon to discuss either the principles or the details of any Bill. I merely refer to the point of construction of what we actually find in the Council Rules and in the Standing Orders. I venture to submit, Sir, that Rule 20, as the hon. Member for the University suggests, must be read with due regard to every phrase and word that is contained in it. It runs as follows:

'As soon as may be after a Bill has been introduced, the Bill, unless it has already been published, shall be published in the Gazette.'

"The rule lays down that if the Bill has not already been published, it shall be published in the Gazette. It does not prohibit or command previous publication. Our Standing Orders are equally valid under the Government of India Act although they proceed from a different authority. They are subject to amendments by the Council, subject again to the assent of the Governor. But so far as they are consistent with the Council Rules, they are valid as much as the Council Rules themselves. It seems to me that Rule 20 left it entirely for the Council, under its Standing Orders, to lay down any provision as regards previous publication that it thought fit to impose. The rule merely says that if publication is not otherwise provided for, a Bill shall be published after its introduction. The rule, therefore, governing the present case is Standing Order 38.

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"It seems to me clear that the right construction of that Standing Order is that the Council has laid down that before a Bill is introduced, it shall be published in the Gazette. That is also borne out by Council Rule 20. Therefore, I contend that it is *intra vires* of the Act. It seems to me therefore perfectly clear that before the hon. Member is entitled to proceed to the next stage in connexion with the present Bill, it has to be published, and that after such publication, he must give six days' notice to the Secretary of the Council."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT:—"Does the hon. Member read in Standing Order 38 anything to show that it is obligatory that the Bill should be published before introduction?"

* The hon. Mr. T. E. MOIR:—"That is my contention, Sir."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT:—"How is that interpretation supported by the actual wording of the Standing Order?"

* The hon. Mr. T. E. MOIR:—"Because, Sir, the Standing Order lays down the procedure in this Council. It says that a Bill *may* be introduced; and I take it that it uses the word 'may' because there is no compulsion on any Member to introduce a Bill for leave to introduce which he has asked; but that if he does introduce the Bill, the essential preliminary is publication in the Gazette and six days' notice to the Secretary of the Council. I further suggest, Sir, that the interpretation put by the hon. Member for the University on the expression in clauses (1), (2), (3) and (4) of Standing Order 38 'a Bill', 'the Bill', 'a Bill' and again 'the Bill' is wrong. I would say that it refers to each Bill in turn and that there is no possible ground for the suggestion that clause (1) refers to one class of Bills and that clause (2) refers to a different class of Bills. As regards the point raised in connexion with Standing Order 41, the expression 'whether the publication directed by the rules or by the Council has taken place' refers entirely to clause (1) of Standing Order 38. That is to say, if under the Standing

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Orders of the Council, publication in the Gazette is laid down, the Select Committee shall report to the Council whether its instructions to that effect have been carried out."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" The rules contemplate that a Bill may be published either before leave to introduce or after introduction. I hold the view that Standing Orders will have to be made making it compulsory that a Bill should be published before introduction into the Council ; but at present, the question is whether such direction does exist in the Standing Orders as they stand at present. In Standing Order 38, I do not interpret the words ' At any time after a Bill has been published in the Gazette ' as giving a direction that the Bill should have been published before introduction. When we compare the rules in the old Standing Orders of the pre-reform days, we do find that there was a distinct declaration in those rules that every Bill should have been published before it was introduced in the Council. A study of the Standing Orders of the Assembly makes it clear that a Bill may be introduced before publication. But according to the Standing Orders of the Assembly, it is clear that the introduction of the Bill is not at all a motion. It is a mere announcement of the fact of the introduction, and the general principles of the Bill are not discussed when a Bill is introduced. The general discussion of the principles of the Bill is only taken up when a motion is made that the Bill be taken into consideration or be referred to a Select Committee or when any similar motion is made. Therefore, I find that our Standing Orders are not at all complete in this matter ; and as the Standing Orders now stand there is nothing to prevent the introduction of a Bill before its publication. But wherever there is any defect in the Standing Orders, under Standing Order 79, I have to regulate as far as possible, the procedure in Council consistently with the parliamentary practice. The parliamentary practice is, when a motion for leave is made, a date is fixed for the introduction of the Bill. Under the Standing Orders as at present, I think it would be safe for this House to fix a date for the introduction of the Bill. I therefore ask the hon. Member for the University to fix a non-official day when it would be convenient for him to introduce the Bill."

* Mr. S. SATYAMURTI :—" The next non-official day, Sir."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" There are three non-official days, 29th 30th and 31st March."

* Mr. S. SATYAMURTI :—" On the first non-official day for Bills, I shall bring up this Bill for introduction."

* Diwan Bahadur M. KRISHNAN NAYAR :—" May I know, Sir, whether you order the publication or the printing of this Bill before my Friend introduces it, or whether you leave it to his discretion ? "

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" That is a matter I have to examine. I can have copies of the Bill supplied to the Members. I have just now referred to the instructions issued in the Legislative department, and those instructions contain a direction that when a Bill is introduced, it may be published. I shall have the necessary changes effected, to have the Bill published in the meantime, if possible. I cannot promise it, but I shall see that at least a copy of the Bill is supplied to all the Members of the Council."

* Mr. S. SATYAMURTI :—" With the Statement of Objects and Reasons, Sir ? "

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" Yes."

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(ii) THE VILLAGE OFFICERS BILL.

* Mr. S. MUTTAYYA MUDALIYAR :—" Mr. President, I beg to move for leave to introduce the Village Officers Bill."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" As there is no objection, the hon. Member has got the leave of the House."

The motion was put to the House and adopted.

(iii) A BILL TO AMEND THE MADRAS ELEMENTARY EDUCATION ACT, 1920.

* Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—" Mr. President, Sir, I beg to move that my Bill^a to amend the Madras Elementary Education Act, 1920, be read in Council. May I make my speech now, Sir?"

* The hon. Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN :—" Mr. President, I have already talked to the hon. Member, Mr. Saldanha, on this matter. I have under consideration the amendment of the Elementary Education Act as a whole, and I shall give careful consideration to the point raised by my hon. Friend. As that Bill will be before the House in a short time, very likely in the session in August next, I hope my hon. Friend will have no objection to withdraw his motion."

* Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—" Sir, in view of the assurance given by the hon. Minister that he will give it some consideration, a sympathetic consideration, I hope, I beg for leave to withdraw the Bill."

The motion was, by leave of the House, withdrawn.

(3)

Motions on matters of general public interest.

REVISION OF THE PAY OF VILLAGE OFFICERS.

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" The resolution before the House is —

' * 4 [105] *That this Council recommends to the Government that the pay of village officers under Government as well as in the proprietary estates be raised to Rs. 15 per mensem and that the pay of village menials (vettis, talai-yaris) in the ryotwari and proprietary villages be raised to Rs. 10 per mensem from 1st April 1927 and provision be made for the same in the ensuing budget.*

" Notices of several amendments have been received. Before I call upon Mr. Kaleswara Rao to move his amendment I wish to know whether the latter portion of his amendment is in order because it deals with travelling allowance which is not the subject matter of the resolution. What has he to say as to whether it is in order?"

* Mr. A. KALESWARA RAO :—" I do not want to press my^b amendment. I shall drop the latter portion, but shall, with your permission, speak a few words on the former"

* The hon. Mr. PRESIDENT :—" I have no objection to allow the hon. Member to move the first part of his amendment."

* Mr. A. KALESWARA RAO :—" Mr. President, I do not propose to press my amendment; but I wish to explain my position and then resume my

^a Published in the Fort St. George Gazette, dated 15th February 1927.

^b Mr. A. KALESWARA RAO :—

For all the words coming after the words 'the Government' substitute the words 'to increase the salaries of village officers, including assistant harnams and triune officers, to a minimum of Rs. 20 a month and those of village servants to a minimum of Rs. 11 per month and also to pay batta to village officers at As. 12 per day and to village servants at As. 8 per day, whenever they have to go from their villages to a distance of more than six miles on public duty under the orders of their superiors.'

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seat. The pay and the status of the village officers deserve very careful and sympathetic consideration at the hands of this House and of the Government. They are paid very little for the important duties they are discharging. They form, as it were, the foundation for the whole administrative fabric. My amendment does not go too far. Rs. 20 is only what is paid to attenders in the Education and other departments; and Rs. 11 to the village servants is less than what is paid to peons. Village officers, though they were once the magnates of the village polity, though they are still doing the most important duties, have been relegated to the meanest position after the British Government established itself. In the pre-British Indian polity, village life was the basis, and villages were, as it were, so many republics. The whole village polity has been rudely disturbed after the advent of the British Government. The village communities which possessed and controlled all the communal properties in the village including the forests attached to the village, the pasture lands and other communal lands like burial grounds, have lost all their powers. They have been removed as it were, out of account. The omnipotent British Sarkar is now preventing villagers from grazing their cattle or getting fuel brushwood or materials for their agricultural implements from the village forests. Cottage industries which were supplying the necessities, comforts and luxuries for the people have been substituted by foreign goods, and village panchayats have no place practically in the British mode of administration. And now, villagers instead of looking to the panchayats for justice to be done between man and man, for the protection of their life and property, are now looking to the sub-inspector, to the district munsif, to the tahsildar, the sub-assistant surgeon, etc., for everything. That is the case now, Sir, and naturally, these village officers also who were once the magnates have now been reduced to nothing, and the village folk now look to the townsmen for fashions and dress and even hair-cutting. And we have to look to the day when village life would be restored, village panchayats would spring up and be visible in every village, and cottage industries revived, and village reconstruction effected. The increase in the pay of the village officers which I propose by this amendment is by no means high. I propose a modest sum of Rs. 20 to the village officers, particularly as they have lost their *plavazamas* and their customary dues. Now if a village officer takes any customary dues, it is considered to be a bribe. In those days, the people used to think it their sacred duty to supply these necessities to the village officers. The village officials were considered to be part and parcel of the villagers and being one of them used to look to their wants, conveniences and so forth. Now, the village officers have nothing in common with the villagers. They play naturally some tricks to get on somehow by all sorts of means. It is really a great necessity to keep them in contentment and above starvation. But our present position is that we have no control over the purse as a whole and though we may propose something, that cannot be carried into effect because the other adjustments cannot be made in the Budget. Therefore taking that into consideration and also expecting that at least the resolution moved by my hon. Friend Mr. Adinarayana Chettiyar coupled with the amendments already proposed would be accepted by the House unanimously and also expecting that the amalgamation scheme would be dissolved and every village officer would be restored to his former position as promised by the Government, I do not propose to press my amendment, but would support the proposition coupled with the amendments that were under discussion on the last non-official day.

"With these few words, Sir, I resume my seat."

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* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—"So the hon. Member has not moved his amendment."

* Mr. A. KALESWARA RAO :—"No, Sir. I have supported the proposition as amended by the two amendments."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—"Does Mr. C. V. Venkataramana Ayyangar propose to move his amendment?"

* Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR :—"Yes, Sir."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—"I want to say this. I know the practice of this House has been for Members to speak on motions and also on the amendments, at various times. But my interpretation of the Standing Orders is that they cannot make a second speech, if once they have spoken on the motion or on the amendment. Before I give a considered ruling on the matter, I wish to bring this to the notice of hon. Members of the House and especially the Advocate-General to examine the question so that a considered ruling may be given on the matter. Anyhow, for the time being, Mr. C. V. Venkataramana Ayyangar, though he already moved amendments on the motion, may move the amendment now. At the next earliest opportunity, I want to examine the whole question whether a Member can make a speech on the motion as well as on the amendments regarding any motion in the House."

* Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR :—"Can I, with your permission, move all my amendments together, as they form only one amendment?"

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—"Yes."

* Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR :—"Sir, my amendments are very simple and they are these :—

'In line 2 before the words "village officers" insert the word "all."

'In lines 2-3, omit the words "be raised to Rs. 15 per mensem."

'In line 3 after the word "raised", insert the words "from the 1st of April 1927."

'In line 4 after the word "Talaiyaris" insert "etc."

'In line 4 for the words "Rs. 10" substitute the words "what they were respectively at the time the amalgamation of villages took place."

'In lines 5-6, omit the words "from 1st April 1927 . . . ensuing budget."

"The resolution as amended by me would run thus :

'This Council recommends to the Government that the pay of all village officers under Government as well as in the proprietary estates and that the pay of the village menials, vettis, talaiyaris, etc., in the ryotwari and proprietary villages be raised from 1st April 1927 to what they were respectively at the time the amalgamation of villages took place.'

"With your permission for the word 'before' in the amendment as given notice of I have substituted the words 'at the time' and added the words 'took place' at the end, because that would make my meaning clear. I do not propose to make any long speech. We do not want it to be presumed, when I move this amendment, that we do not accept the principle of the previous amendment. We are all for increasing the pay of the village officers and menials much more than they were ever getting. But the purport of this resolution is that pending a general

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increase of pay, we want the reductions that had been made at the time of amalgamation to be made up and the strength be restored to what it was before. In the case of village officers under Government, they had been receiving Rs. 15, and this was reduced to Rs. 14 and Rs. 13. In the case of village menials, they had been receiving Rs. 8, and this was reduced to Rs. 7-8-0. There has been a reduction in the case of village officers in zamindari estates also. We want all these to be reinstated. The reason why I am not now supporting the previous amendment is that it would be costing a large amount about 45 lakhs. But if my amendment is carried, the cost would be about ten lakhs of rupees and the Government should not grudge this because of the large sum of money they have now got as a result of the remission. One thing more I want to add. By increasing the number of village officers, the Government were benefited because they got an additional number of men and got more work done by them. It is but fair that the Government should pay for the additional number of men and we want all of them to get the pay they had been getting at the time of amalgamation. We want this restoration now and this increase of pay whatever may be the result of the agitation for increase of pay to non-gazetted officers and village officers as a whole."

* Mr. S. MUTTAYYA MUDALIYAR :—"Mr. President, Sir, I second this amendment. If this amendment is carried and the resolution as amended is given effect to, the additional cost to Government would be only about 10½ lakhs."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—"The amendments of Mr. Venkataramana Ayyangar have been moved and seconded and are for the discussion of the Council. The ^a amendments of Mr. Muttayya Mudaliyar are covered by the amendment before the House and therefore they will not be moved. But there are two ^b amendments, one by Mr. Narayana Raju and the other by Mr. R. Srinivasa Ayyangar. I want to know if they propose moving their amendments."

Mr. D. NARAYANA RAJU :—"I do not want to move it, Sir."

Mr. R. SRINIVASA AYYANGAR :—"I do not propose to move my amendment, Sir."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—"Mr. Muniswami Nayudu's amendment is to add the words 'without reduction of village officers as they exist.' I think it will be for the convenience of the House if that amendment also is considered by adding it to the amendment now under discussion."

* Rao Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU :—"I want to move my amendment, Sir, specially because we have had experience of how the resolution of this Council for increase of pay of village officers was treated. The

^a Mr. S. MUTTAYYA MUDALIYAR :—

In line 3 for the words and figure "to Rs. 15" *substitute* the words "to what it was before the amalgamation."

In line 4 for the words and figure "to Rs. 10" *substitute* the words "to what it was before the amalgamation."

^b Mr. D. NARAYANA RAJU :—

For the figure "15" *substitute* the figure "20".

Mr. R. SRINIVASA AYYANGAR :—

In line 5 for the words "1st April" *substitute* the words "1st July."

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Government accepted that resolution and reduced the number of officers. We asked for restoration of these posts, and it was done, but with reduced pay. We now ask for increased pay for the restored officers. May I know if I would be given an opportunity of speaking on the amendment of Mr. C. V. Venkataramana Ayyangar, because I would like to speak on that also."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" I propose to allow a general discussion on the amendment as amended, so that the Council may have an opportunity of expressing its opinion on the resolution as amended. Therefore I now put the question of adding the words contained in your amendment : 'with-out reduction in the number of officers as they existed' to the amendment of Mr. C. V. Venkataramana Ayyangar."

* Rao Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU :—" Sir, I may submit that I would like my amendment to be kept independent of the amendment of Mr. C. V. Venkataramana Ayyangar, because if the latter is not accepted, my amendment would still be there. If my amendment is incorporated in his amendment, my amendment will share the fate of his, and I will have no chance, afterwards, of moving my substantive amendment to the proposition itself."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" I have no objection. Mr. Venkataramana Ayyangar's amendment is now for the consideration of the House."

* Diwan Bahadur M. KRISHNAN NAYAR :—" I suppose I will be permitted to speak on the resolution now."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" I have already said that at this time I am not going to take up the question whether a Member shall be allowed to speak on the amendment as well as on the resolution. That question has to be examined and a ruling will be given at the next earliest opportunity."

* Diwan Bahadur M. KRISHNAN NAYAR :—" I am speaking for those hon. Members, who like myself, have not taken part in this discussion at all, Sir."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" For the present, the old practice continues."

1-15 P.M. * Mr. R. SRINIVASA AYYANGAR :—" I have given notice of another amendment^a which is the last one. I would like to know if that amendment will be taken at all."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" I have already said—I presume the hon. Member was not in the House then—with reference to the amendment of Mr. Kaleswara Rao, that the amendment relates to a matter not connected with the original resolution. Therefore, it cannot be moved."

* Mr. R. SRINIVASA AYYANGAR :—" With all respect to you, Sir, I must say that you only asked whether that amendment was in order. He did not press it and therefore the matter was left there. It was not ruled out of order. You simply called upon the hon. Member to show if he was in order."

^a Mr. R. SRINIVASA AYYANGAR :—

In lines 5-6, for the words 'and provision . . . budget' substitute the following :—
'And that adequate provision be made for payment of batta and daily allowances to village officers while attending to public work under the orders of their official superiors in places which are more than five miles from their villages.'

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* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" When I called upon the hon. Member, Mr. Kaleswara Rao, I expected the hon. Member to get up and satisfy me if he intended to move his amendment. I have no objection if he now satisfies me."

* Mr. R. SRINIVASA AYYANGAR :—" With all respect to you, Sir, the only reason that stands in support of me is this. Whenever the House grants money to the public servants, their pay and allowance go together."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" The hon. Member has to satisfy me how this amendment is not foreign to the subject matter of the resolution."

* Mr. R. SRINIVASA AYYANGAR :—" I am now making the submission to you, Sir. The main object of the resolution is doubtless intimately connected with the question of pay. Pay and allowance as a rule go together. Therefore it was that I wanted to take it up now."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" Standing Order 32, clause (i) says :

' An amendment must be relevant to and within the scope of the subject matter of the clause or motion to which it relates.'

"I hold that the batta and other things do not come under pay and therefore, I rule this amendment out of order."

* Diwan Bahadur M. KRISHNAN NAYAR :—" Sir, I wish to support the original resolution before the House."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" Order, Order. The amendment and not the resolution is now before the House."

* Diwan Bahadur M. KRISHNAN NAYAR :—" I oppose the amendment and in opposing the amendment, I say that the suggestions mentioned in the original resolution are the only reasonable suggestions before the House and I shall proceed with the reasons in support thereof. Now, it is said in the resolution that the pay of these village officials should be increased. It seems to me that it is a very eminently reasonable suggestion. As a matter of fact, even coolies get more than Rs. 15 a month. In my part of the Presidency at any rate, unskilled coolies get 7 to 8 annas a day which comes to about Rs. 15 a month and it is rather hard that village officials who are responsible men, who hold a high position in the village should not get Rs. 15. They are important men and they are looked up to as such and they are the representatives of the Government in the villages. The village is the smallest territorial unit under the Government and in the villages, particularly, the village headmen represent the Government, as the Collector represents the Government in the district, comparing small things with great. I may also say that the village officers are called upon to perform all sorts of functions. There is no knowing what they may be called upon to do. They may be called upon to report on tigers and cobras and seeing that they have multifarious functions to do, it is rather hard to deprive them of even the Rs. 15 that they were receiving. There is also this thing, Sir. I asked the hon. the Revenue Member a few months ago whether Government would be pleased to give an allowance to these village officers when they attended taluk offices under the orders of their superiors. He answered 'No.' At present, they are often called to the taluk office and have to spend there several days without getting any remuneration. They do not even get the out-of-pocket expenses. In these circumstances, even a

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large portion of what they get, which is less than Rs. 15, has to be spent while remaining at taluk headquarters. With reference to the amendment of my hon. Friend Mr. B. Muniswami Nayudu, . . .

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" It is not before the House."

* Diwan Bahadur M. KRISHNAN NAYAR :—"As a matter of fact, no amendment is necessary for my purpose. I may say what I want to say without referring to any amendment. Government should not give effect to this resolution by reducing the number of officers. This is taking away practically with one hand what is given by the other and reducing the present state of affairs to a state of affairs which was condemned by this House. So that, it is reasonable and just and necessary that the pay of these officers should be raised to Rs. 15 without any reduction in their number."

* Rao Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU :—" I oppose the amendment and that for this reason. The original motion, as it stood, concerned only with the village officers in the ryotwari areas. But the amendment already carried is to the effect that the case of the village officers of the proprietary estates should also be brought in for the consideration of the Government. The effect of this amendment will be that while you restore the pay in the ryotwari areas to Rs. 15, you will pay these officers in the zamindari areas only at Rs. 7 or Rs. 8. It will be an anomaly that a village officer who is serving two masters should be paid less. The village officer in the zamindari area has to assist Government officers and also the zamindar, and he may be hauled up by the zamindar's officials at any time. He has to protect himself against that. He has to do duty both under the zamindar and the Government, only to get less pay. On a previous occasion, I urged in this House that, if it is considered that the pay paid to the zamindari officials is just and sufficient for the work done to Government, and if the Government does not take into consideration the work done to the zamindar, then let the Government modify the rules and prescribe that the village officers need not do zamindari work. Unless it is done, the village officers are made to do duty to the proprietor who pays nothing for it. I therefore, Sir, submit that if this amendment is accepted it, would mean a perpetuation of the difference that has been established before between the village officer of the ryotwari area and the village officer of the zamindari area. I would like to hear from among members here that the village officers' duties in the zamindari estate are less onerous. I do not know what the Government will say. I am sure that so far as the members of this House are concerned, they will agree that they are as onerous if not more. For these reasons, I oppose the amendment because, if the amendment is accepted, it will perpetuate the old differences."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" I believe the House is ready for the question to be put."

Mr. G. Harisarvottama Rao was about to rise from his seat.

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" Members are expected to be very prompt when they want to speak."

* Mr. G. HARISARVOTTAMA RAO :—" I beg your pardon. I was just writing. To make the position clear, I want to move an amendment even at this stage. I will put it in a few words. The words 'at the time of amalgamation' occur in the amendment moved by Mr. C. V. Venkataramana

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Ayyangar. That is a dubious phrase. The amalgamation and the raising of pay occurred either together, before or after. It is not very clear. So I want to propose the words: 'what they were highest respectively before to-day', i.e., the highest that the village officials were getting at any time."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" I do not think I can allow any amendment at this stage."

* Mr. A. PARASURAMA RAO :—" I beg to oppose the amendment on the ground that there are certain villages in some of the districts where there is no amalgamation at all. This clause may not apply to these officials. Unless you take into consideration the village officer individually in fixing the pay I think there may be some difficulty in working out the idea contained in the amended resolution. Therefore, it will be making an invidious distinction between one officer and another when we consider that the responsibilities of both the officers are equally onerous and equally exacting. So I would suggest that each officer be paid Rs. 15 irrespective of the fact whether he belongs to the ryotwari village or the proprietary village."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" The resolution if amended would run thus : 1-30 p.m.

' That this Council recommends to the Government that the pay of all village officers under Government as well as in the proprietary estates and that the pay of the village menials (vettis, talaiyaris, etc.), in the ryotwari and proprietary estates be raised from 1st April 1927 to what they were respectively at the time when the amalgamation of villages took place.'

"I now put Mr. Venkataramana Ayyangar's amendment to the House."

The amendment was put and negatived.

Rao Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU :—" Sir, I formally move my amendment."

The amendment reads :

' That in line 5, after the words " 1st April 1927," insert the words " without reduction in the number of officers as they exist."

Mr. T. ADINARAYANA CHETTIYAR :—" I am prepared to accept the amendment, Sir."

Rao Bahadur B. Muniswami Nayudu's amendment was then put and adopted.

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" The resolution as further amended by Mr. Muniswami Nayudu is now before the Council."

The House will now adjourn and re-assemble at 2-30 p.m.

After Lunch (2-30 p.m.)

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" The resolution of Mr. T. Adinarayana Chettiyar as further amended is for the discussion of the House."

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* Mr. R. SRINIVASA AYYANGAR :—“ Mr. President, Sir, this resolution has my support, and it is long overdue. I have no desire to take the House into the full history of the circumstances that compelled us to table a resolution of this character. Hon. Members of this House may be perfectly aware of the fact that in deference to the unanimous opinion expressed on the floor of this House on more than one occasion, the Government felt it necessary to restore all the village officers and other persons who have been thrown out of employ, and it was least expected that the Government would embark on a policy of retrenchment in this direction. Till about 1922 the village headman was getting Rs. 15 and so also his brother, the village karnam, and the village menials Rs. 8, and the hon. Mr. Marjoribanks was of opinion and told us more than once that he was inclined to restore the officers entirely provided the budget allotment was in no way exceeded, and with a view to make both ends meet he came forward with this proposal of reducing the pay of the village karnam by Re. 1 and of the village monigar by Rs. 2 and of menials by half a rupee. That set free a sum of about Rs. 10 lakhs, which he distributed to the new persons. As regards that, my only protest is this: in 1926-27 the budget provided for 13,966 village monigars and in consequence of the restoration we are now having 16,376, or in other words we have extra hands to the extent of 2,410 village headmen; as against 13,551 village karnams we are now having 14,875; as against 43,000 vettis and talaiyaris, we are having 48,000. Thus, it will be found that the number of village officers and menials have gone up considerably. I cannot understand the policy of the Government in saying that ‘we have set apart a particular amount of money; hitherto we were spending in a particular way; we were distributing it to 65,000 persons; we have no objection to raise the number from 65,000 to 70,000 provided the budget allotment is not exceeded, or in that way if you want to raise the number of persons, instead of giving them increased pay, you make a slice out of the pay of the people already there and distribute it among persons whom you want to let in consequent upon the Restoration Bill.’ So long as the Government have increased the number of hands and have made such a large number of persons do the work of the Government, they are bound to pay for everybody a proper salary. Moreover, Sir, these village officers, in my humble judgment, do not get even a living wage. How can you expect a man to live on Rs. 10 or Rs. 15? If I may say so, they form the very base of the pyramid of the administration. That being so, if so minded, they can make the Government come down on its knees and create a deadlock, for the Government look up to them for this and that, for the collection of a large amount of money which goes to maintain and also to preserve the integrity of the administration. The entire administration is being run out of the collections made by those people who are at the bottom of the ladder. The House will perhaps know that this Government has committed itself to an extra expenditure of Rs. 10 lakhs consequent on the recommendations of the Lee Commission, and that money comes out of the general revenue which is being collected by these village officers. There is absolutely no reason as to why these village officers and village menials, who are very loyal and loyal to the core, should be treated in this half-hearted fashion. It seems to me that the time has come when their condition should be bettered and the Government should embark on a policy of sympathy and must make up its mind to give these village officers Rs. 15 a month and the menials Rs. 10.”

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* Sriman BISWANATH Das Mahasayo :—“ Mr. President, Sir, I join with my hon. Friends who have spoken before me in supporting this resolution to revise the pay of the village officers. This is a subject which is as old as myself. I have very little to say about the village officers of the ryotwari areas as it has been fully dealt by my previous speakers. My heart goes to the village officers that are in the proprietary estates. In the first place, the difference in pay between the village officers in the ryotwari tracts and the village officers in the proprietary estates affects the latter unfavourably. The village officers in the proprietary estates have to obey two masters; one is the Government and the other is the proprietor.

“ Sir, under the Permanent Settlement Regulations as also under the Karnams Regulations, the proprietor is bound to provide a Karnam for every village, and if he is to respect the Permanent Settlement Regulations he is bound to provide them and pay for them and is no more a charge on the public finance. Under the terms of the Permanent Settlement Regulations as also the Karnams Regulations he, the Karnam, is bound to furnish such returns as are necessary for the State. Therefore, it can be seen that the village officers in the proprietary estates is a charge on the proprietor himself. Conditions have now changed. The Government of Madras on the initiative of the Government of India have undertaken the task of paying in money to the village officers in the proprietary estates, when the finances of both Governments, Provincial and Imperial were full. Now that we are in hardy days, conditions have changed. I take it, that a revision of the status and pay of the village officers in ryotwari tracts as also in proprietary estates is necessary. We have been passing time after time resolutions to enhance the pay and prospects of the village officers, and Government sometimes did not pay heed to our resolutions, and if at all they paid any heed, it was half-hearted. In the first place, they agreed to restore the village officers to bring them to the number which stood in 1921. We know how far they were carried out. To make this possible we have effected an amendment of Acts II and III of 1894 and 1895, and that was not carried out either in spirit or in letter. In my district, Sir, the reduction of village officers, I was told, has given the Government a benefit to the extent of Rs. 60,000. When I interpellated the Government whether that sum would be set apart for restoring the village officers in the district, I was told that a Presidency pooling will be made and that no case can be made for a single district. Therefore, they are not at all going to pay any heed to our resolutions except in so far as they could make a profit. I would therefore suggest that a *via media* may be found and a committee may sit to go into the whole question, so that we may not come before this Council time after time with resolutions or motions on the budgets, but once for all decide the question of raising the pay of village officers.

“ Secondly, Sir, the reduction of the pay of village menials is very painful. In the first place, the pay of the village menials is not a living wage, and, in the second place, they have to serve not only the Government, and in proprietary estates the Government and the proprietor, but also the people in rural areas. All officials, provincial or imperial, from the highest to the lowest, have to seek for their service. Under these circumstances, I hold that it is bad in principle to cut down the pay of the village menials to make up any deficiencies in finance. I therefore strongly support this resolution

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and request the Government not to whittle it down on the ground of finance. Because if my suggestion is taken regarding the proprietary estates, they can make up the money from the landed proprietors who constitute about one-fourth of this province. With these remarks, I strongly support the resolution."

* Mr. S. ARPUDASWAMI UDAYAR :—"Mr. President, I have great pleasure in supporting this resolution. I will not repeat the arguments used by the previous speakers. There is one argument that appeals very much to me, and, I hope, will appeal also to the Members of this House. The old order is changing. With regard to these village officers, I should say it has already changed. Some years ago, there were men who were ready to take up these offices not for the sake of the salary attached to them but for the position which it gave them. At present, Sir, many of these village officers are not treated by the revenue officers, even by the revenue subordinates, with a respect and regard due to them as men having a considerable locus standi and influence. Therefore, the tendency is for many village officers to shirk off their responsibility, and to refuse to take up offices and these offices are passing into the hands of men who are not in all cases men possessing local standing or influence. I know that these village officers have to go very often to towns. I know that when they are in towns they have to dance attendance on the revenue subordinates. Sometimes they are asked to explain the delay in the collection of kist and they are taken to task by the tahsildars. Sometimes they have to remain working till eleven or twelve in the night to faithfully carry out the instructions of officers. So, considering all these changes in their standing, in their position, in the onerousness of the duties that now devolve on them, the amount of worry they are subjected to, I think raising their salary to Rs. 15 is not raising it to any enormous extent. That will just suffice to meet the extra expenditure to which they are put when they have to remain at taluk headquarters in the ordinary discharge of their duties.

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p.m.

"There is another point, namely, the raising of the salaries of the vettis. These vettis mostly belong to the depressed classes and it is a matter of common knowledge and experience that most of these depressed classes suffer very keenly any loss entailed upon their income. As a matter of fact, most of these vettis have been holding their office hereditarily and if they are thrown out or if their pay is reduced, the suffering that they have to pass through is really very great. So, the raising of their pay to Rs. 10 is an act of bare justice and nothing more. It will give them a living wage. For these reasons, I support the resolution."

* Mr. S. SATYAMURTI :—"I propose that the question be now put."

* Mr. G. HARISARVOTTAMA RAO :—"I second it."

The motion for closure was adopted.

The resolution was then put and passed.

CONSTITUTION OF A SEPARATE ANDHRA PROVINCE.

* Mr. P. ANJANEYULU :—"I move—

'That this Council recommends to the Government to recommend to the Governor-General in Council that the contiguous Telugu-speaking area in the Presidency be constituted into a separate "Andhra Province" for all legislative, administrative and judicial purposes.'

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“ Mr. President, Sir, I feel that perhaps the atmosphere in which I have the honour to move this resolution is not altogether unfavourable to it. Only recently, elsewhere—in the Council of Elders—a similar proposition was moved, but with no success. The main reasons that were adduced by the Elders were very few. They said that the move had not come from their younger brethren, and that this House had the legitimate right to express an opinion on the formation of either a separate Andhra or a Tamil province. Most unfortunately, though this House tabled a motion so early as in January, it could not be reached earlier than now. The Government Members of the Council of State have doubted that there was not unanimity of feeling among the Andhras themselves. As for that, Sir, I am glad to note that there are at least 3 or 4 Members in this House who have been presidents of Andhra conferences held at different times and at different places. The ex-Minister, the Raja Sahib of Panagal, and the present Minister, the hon. Mr. Ranganatha Mudaliyar presiding over the Andhra conferences, and my hon. Friend even Sir A. P. Patro were taking a leading part in the movement for a separate Andhra province and a separate Andhra university. Now after having given us an Andhra university, they should not be half-hearted, but must join us in the request for a separate Andhra province. The feeling has been over much for the last 15 years, and anyone who has the ears to hear and the spirit to understand would have known that the Andhras have been very keen in having a separate province for themselves. The Andhra kings ruled over vast areas in this land for over two thousand years, possibly even before the Christian era. It may interest some of the hon. Members here that the very floor on which we are standing—i.e., the City of Madras—was given to the East India Company by one of the Andhra kings. (Mr. S. Satyamurti: ‘A most unwise act’!) I think so. He perhaps least expected that we would be working for establishing an Andhra province.

“ As long ago as 1910, the Andhra movement was started, and ever since, there were a number of Andhra conferences held year after year in which, I am glad to refer that the hon. the President also took a very active part. The first Andhra conference which was held at Bapatla was presided over by no less a person than Sir B. N. Sarma who has never been counted as belonging to the ranks of the advance guards. He was a moderate of moderates, and even he was very keen in having an Andhra province. He gave a long story of the greatness of the Andhras and said that the Andhra culture could come up to the level and stand by other cultures of the world, only when an Andhra university for the Andhras and a separate Andhra province were constituted. No doubt they were not very definite in that first Conference. They said it was desirable to approach the Government with a request that a separate Andhra province might be given to them in time. But the second Andhra Conference which was held in Bezwada, thousands attended it, enunciated a proposition that it was not only desirable, but it was necessary, that there should be a separate Andhra province equally necessary to have an Andhra university. In the third Conference which was held at Cocanada, the feeling was keener still. They said it was not only necessary but also essential that they should have an Andhra province. Meanwhile the war came, and they said they would wait till after the war. We have waited for very many things in great expectation to be done after the war. We were very much disillusioned, and along with

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greater aspirations, this humbler aspiration also proved futile. But later on as we recovered from this disillusionment, this disappointment, the Andhra University question came up before Sir A. P. Patro. I hope he will with equal vigour share the view I have the honour to express to-day regarding the constitution of an Andhra province. Though the university has not taken that form which some of us wished it should take, it has become an accomplished fact at the hands of my hon. Friend, Sir A. P. Patro, and if the present Ministry, if I have correctly followed the speech of the hon. the Chief Minister, have more sums granted to the university I feel no doubt that the Andhra University would be what they wish it to be—not a mere replica of the Madras University but one fitted for the natural growth of the Andhra talent introducing the vernaculars there so that the medium of instruction through vernaculars may be an outstanding feature of the university. Now the Conference at Ellore recently held, in 1926, has also restated the same view. That shows that the feeling among the Andhras is not only unanimous but it is also intense.

“As far as the third and perhaps the more difficult question of finance goes, it is a matter which requires, no doubt from all sides of the House, some consideration. The Finance Member will bear me out when I say that nearly half the revenues that we get from this province is from the Andhra districts. The correct proportion is 43·6 per cent. As far as the expenditure is concerned it would be as much. Therefore a separate Andhra desa will not cost more, except that there may be some initial expenditure. I would request the House to reflect for a moment whether schemes for an Andhra desa could not be taken up in much less time—such schemes as the Tungabhadra and Kistna projects and many other schemes. As the railway line connecting the Central Provinces with the East Coast, and also the harbour scheme of Vizagapatam will soon be an accomplished fact, when all these things are likely to materialize, the resources of the country would so increase that the returns in the form of money would be so much that the cost of administration will not really be a great factor in giving a separate province for the Andhras.

“As far as the constitution of the several provinces in this country is concerned, it is a matter of history, and I shall not labour the point or tire the hon. Members of this House by showing how provinces were formed. We know how the British came over to India. It was a mere accident. They did not come for conquest; they came for trade and they found that they could not trade unless they had some places. So it was an historical accident, a divine accident, which carved out certain provinces; it was merely a chronological accident, with no pre-conceived device or plan. Hence these provinces are not homogeneous, they are not based on any principle, or on any geographical limits. They merely added on, one district to another district and so on, and possibly for administrative purposes they could not do better than what they have done. Now, no less a person than the Lord Bishop of Madras once remarked in the columns of a review that of all the people in the world, the British people are the most unimaginative. They think they are always in the right, they think also that nobody else is in the right. When once they thought this province was formed properly, though distinguished officers like Fuller and Strachey have enunciated that the provinces should be reformed on linguistic basis, they would not listen to it.

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"The same principle was accepted by the Montford Scheme also. Even 3 p.m. then these people do not seem to think that it is time for the move to be taken. As far as the figures for 1924-25 are concerned I am in a position to quote them through the kind courtesy of a friend of mine who has prepared them very carefully. The total demand under Major Head 'Land Revenue' for the Madras Presidency for 1924-25 was Rs. 8,32,28,029, while for the Andhra districts including Bellary and Madras it was Rs. 3,86,45,168. If we deduct from this, those for Bellary and Madras it comes to Rs. 3,61,68,481 or nearly 43·3 per cent. This consists chiefly of permanent settlement revenue, ryotwari cess, miscellaneous cess, etc., the other chief source of income being excise. The total including charges for the same year (1924-25) comes to Rs. 4,44,82,326 of which those for the Andhra districts including Madras and Bellary would be Rs. 1,89,56,261 or nearly 52·5 per cent and excluding Bellary and Madras, it comes to Rs. 39,86,286 or 31·4 per cent. From these figures we can fairly say—the figures from year to year generally show very little variation—that half the revenue is derived from Andhradesa and not more than half the expenditure is incurred on Andhradesa. But if more correct figures are taken we may safely say without exaggeration that at least 15 million rupees could be saved for the Andhra country. If it is separated of course there will be the extra expenditure which such a separation as the reconstitution of another province would involve. Even supposing that the expenditure for an Andhra province would be very much, these 15 million rupees would go a long way to meet that, and besides this, there is the possibility of furthering our revenues by having greater irrigation and other projects. Therefore the question of finance would not after all be a very great one. As I have already submitted, Sir, it was by a mere historical accident that this (Madras) Province was formed. It is high time, if this Government or the Government of India or the Parliament mean what they say, that sooner or later—whether sooner as we require, or later as they propose—swaraj should be given to this country, that provinces are formed on a linguistic basis so that the only form of Government that is possible for this country, viz., a federal form of Government, like that obtaining in the United States of America may be easily established. In suggesting this, I have the support of no less an authority than His Excellency the Governor-General, Lord Hardinge, who in his despatch, dated 15th August 1911, laid down that a settlement of boundaries should be to provide financial and administrative units satisfying the legitimate aspirations of the people, and be clearly based upon broad grounds of political, and administrative expediency. When we examine each of these in detail I feel no doubt that the claim for an Andhra province will be correctly understood. The Andhra province should consist of twelve districts, but as some of the districts may be speaking more than one language, this resolution does not say as to what limits the province should be confined. It only says that 'the contiguous Telugu-speaking area in the Presidency be constituted into a separate Andhra province'. As we come to the details it will be time to consider which province or which part of the province may be taken in or left out. Besides, when only in the last Council hon. Members from different parts of the Presidency asked for the constitution of different Universities for Tamil, Kanarese and Malayalam, seeing the Andhra University becoming an accomplished fact, they no doubt had this in mind, viz., that for the cultural growth of any community—community in the broadest sense of the word—people speaking one common

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language should be given a university of their own so that it may have the advantage of the full growth to which it can rise. Similarly, hereafter if we should constitute separate provinces on a federal basis for the would-be Swaraj, the only way in which we can do so would be to put them on a language basis. After all, though there are very many minor languages spoken in this country the major languages are not more than 15 or 16. Hence if we constitute provinces on a language basis for the whole country it will not be more than 15 or 16. As the Andhra University has already been formed, and as the Andhras have been agitating for this for more than fifteen years, if this province question is accepted by this House under section 52-A of the Act, it will be up to the Government to see that they take into consideration that this province should as early as possible be formed. One of the objections raised in the Council of State when a similar resolution was moved was that this Council did not express its opinion on the subject and that objection can be removed if we pass this resolution.

"In this connexion, with your permission, Sir, and through you, I appeal to all the hon. Members of this House. I heard in the lobbies a remark that some hon. Members were not consulted on this resolution, that even some of the Andhra leaders were not approached, etc. I hope that they will not take it amiss for the reason that this question has been before us for the last fifteen years, that this question has been fully considered and that parties of all shades of political opinion have unhesitatingly expressed themselves in favour of a separate Andhra province; it was thought unnecessary to have further consultation. That being the case, even if anything is said or done unintentionally either by the Mover of the resolution or by others who perhaps ought to have approached the so-called leaders, as far as this resolution is concerned, I can assure those hon. Friends of mine that there was nothing of any party spirit in the mind of myself or my friends on this side of the House when we intended to move this resolution. I hope and trust that even the Government Members would realise that the only reasonable way for constituting a province would be on the three grounds mentioned in the despatch of the late Lord Hardinge which, I submit, are satisfied in the case of the Andhras. I hope and trust therefore that the Government Members, even the Finance Member from the financial point of view, would not raise any objection to this resolution. It may be that the initial outlay, if we go in for agricultural expansion would be very much, but we hope to get very good returns provided, as one hon. Member remarks, the field is fertile. The lands in the Andhradesa are really fertile. We want only certain projects to be taken on hand such as the Kistna and Tungabhadra projects. When we spend crores of rupees over the Cauvery project, it would not be difficult to find comparatively small sums of money for the Tungabhadra and Kistna projects. I do not for a moment suggest that the scheme on hand regarding the Cauvery should not be proceeded with. By all means let it be proceeded with. I hope and trust at the same time that the other districts also should have equal chances and equal benefits and this can be had better if you have separate provinces for separate language areas. I hope and trust therefore, Sir, that all the hon. Members of this House will support my resolution unanimously so that the higher powers, the Governor-General in Council

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and the Council of State may know the mind of this Council and also the mind of this Government which I trust will be with us in this resolution."

* Mr. A. KALESWARA RAO :—"Mr. President, I have very great pleasure in seconding this all important resolution. It was in the year 1913 that the Andhras met for the first time and began what is called the Andhra movement. They have agitated during the last fifteen years for two things, a separate Andhra province and a separate Andhra University ; and it was the good fortune of the Andhra leaders who are at the head of the Justice Party to have given to the Andhras a separate Andhra University. I hope, Sir, the spirit which animated them to constitute the Andhra University would enable them to co-operate with us and help us in the formation of the Andhra province also

"The first official despatch that talked of the United States of India was that of Lord Hardinge. That despatch not only talked of the United States of India, but also of the redistribution of the whole country on a linguistic basis. Lord Hardinge gave effect to his ideas in two ways. He unsettled a settled fact. He unsettled the partition of Bengal and he created Delhi into a separate province. He created the capital of India into a separate province on the lines of Washington being a separate province in the United States of America. The anti-partition agitation of Bengal and the Andhra movement are phases of the same idea. There in Bengal, the protest was against a race speaking the same language being divided as under. Here, the people speaking one language want to separate themselves from people speaking other languages and to form themselves into a separate province and live under a separate administration. Sir, the whole Andhradesa is practically unanimous in this demand. Whatever hon. Members here may say in this House, if you go out to any village or to any town or to any district in Andhradesa you will find the unanimity of feeling for a separate Andhra province. This Andhra movement and the question of the Andhra province has not arisen out of jealousy for our Tamilian friends or out of eagerness for job-hunting.

"It has arisen out of a sub-racial consciousness. The Province of Madras has no historical background. It is formed by the accident of foreign annexation. It only reminds us of the internal quarrels of the native kings of old, of Nazar Jung and Muzzafar Jung, of Chanda Sahib and Hyder Ali, of Tippu Sultan and the Mahrattas and of the two Foreign Trading Companies--the English East India Company and the French East India Company interfering with these domestic quarrels, creating them where there were none, and increasing where they existed. This is the result of the annexation of territories with the help of the Indian sepoys who were trained to cut one another's throats. It is not at all an affair for jubilation. It is a national humiliation. On the other hand, an Andhra province or a Tamil province will remind us of the great historic past of the Andhras or the Tamils, their literature, their kings and their heroes, their industries, their ship-building and their colonisation. The Andhra movement was thought out on these lines and worked out. The Indian National Congress has recognized this fact and for all political purposes it has divided the country into many linguistic areas. The Andhra province has got a separate Andhra Provincial Congress Committee. An Andhra province is fit to be formed for various reasons. There is a large number of contiguous districts speaking the same language, a sub-racial consciousness of their great history and traditions, a well

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developed language, a population of one and a half crores, and a revenue of about seven crores. All these considerations point to the feasibility of constituting them into an Andhra province. There is also unanimity of opinion among the people of the districts. Of course, I am not speaking of the hon. Members here yet, because I do not know what the result of the ominous amendment tabled will be. One hon. Member wants that the Ceded districts and Chittoor should not be included in such a province."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT:—"The hon. Member cannot anticipate an amendment to be moved."

* Mr. A. KALESWARA RAO:—"I hope that that amendment would not come up."

"I hope that this House will unanimously accept the formation of an Andhra province. Of course, there is the question of the bi-lingual districts. Of course, such of them as do not speak Telugu are at liberty to join any province formed on a suitable linguistic basis. We sympathize with the Kanarese-speaking taluks of Bellary district and they are at liberty to go and merge themselves into a Kanarese province if one is formed. The Oriya-speaking taluks of Ganjam are also at liberty to merge themselves into an Oriya or Utkala province. To consider all these matters, an impartial All-India Committee will have to be appointed by the Government of India. If, for example in Chittoor district there is a predominantly Tamil-speaking taluk it will have to be taken over to the Tamil province. If in Nellore district there is a predominantly Telugu-speaking taluk, it ought to be merged in the Andhra province. A part of Chingleput will have to be added to the Andhra province. A portion of Madras also will have to be included; and probably the Cooum will be the boundary. We should not be afraid of these changes. A committee will sit on this question and will come to an impartial decision on it. Of course, as has been already pointed out, there will be some increase in the cost of administration. But that will be more than compensated by the increased revenue which will surely be derived by the development of the country's resources in industries, agriculture, minerals and irrigation and various other directions. More harbours may be opened; the Agency tracts may be developed. At present, the Government cannot devote undivided attention to the Andhra province; and this can only be done if a separate administration is established. Even now, an experiment may with justification be tried in the following direction. Some Judges of the High Court may be asked to try Andhra cases; some Ministers may deal with Andhra matters in the Government and so also some Members of the Executive Council. Instead of dividing the subjects into Excise, Registration, etc., they may be divided into Andhra subjects and other subjects. With regard to diarchy and other constitutional reforms whatever other provinces get, the Andhra province also will get. There need not be any apprehension on that score. When in the fulness of time we get swaraj for the whole country—in this matter the only difference between the officials and the non-officials is that of time—Andhra province also will get swaraj. All the provinces will get provincial autonomy much earlier. A Tamil province is good for the Tamilians as an Andhra province is good for the Andhras. Real swaraj or government for the people by the people means that your administration and education should be through the medium of your own language, and that your language should not, as now, be relegated to a minor place in your universities and in your administration."

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* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—"The hon. Member has exceeded the time limit."

* Mr. A. KALESWARA RAO :—"Unless that is done, the whole thing will not be real swaraj. I have great pleasure in seconding the resolution, and I hope the House will pass it unanimously."

* Rao Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU :—"Sir, I beg to move—

'that in line 3 after the word "Presidency" the words "except Ceded districts and Chittoor" be inserted.'

"At the outset, I want to make it perfectly clear that I am not against my Northern Circars friends forming a separate province of their own. They say that their ideal is a federal system of Government. If that is to be so, and if fourteen Telugu-speaking districts should be one province, I fail to see why the whole province should not be divided into three provinces (a voice 'Why not fourteen?')

"Why not, when those who have been objecting to the very costly machinery set up by the Reforms are the very persons who do not care for the cost which these proposals involve. Therefore I shall not be surprised if from that side of the House, a proposition to divide this one Presidency into fourteen provinces is put forward some day. I submit that when certain districts want to cut away from others and form a separate province of their own, not merely the question of a common language but also so many other matters such as the identity of interests and other things must be considered. Ceded districts and Chittoor might as well stand out of this new scheme, because I contemplate the formation of a separate province for the central districts and another province for the southern districts. The Ceded districts and Chittoor might as well join the central province. Of course, the question of cost will have to be considered by the committee proposed. If I rise at this stage to move the amendment, it is not to say that there is unanimity of opinion about my proposal here but simply to point out that a common language is not the only consideration in the formation of a separate province, and that the alternative proposal for the formation of a separate province for the central districts is one which would be prominently put before any committee constituted for the purpose of splitting up this Presidency into more than one province. There is the question of Madras also. Whatever may be said of the cost of such a proposal, I should think that it is not proper or right to give effect to it when we are working diarchy and when there is no provincial autonomy. To precipitate any such division and thereby create services whose salaries are non-votable will not be in the interests of the country. So far as Chittoor is concerned—I shall leave the Ceded districts to speak for themselves—we are decidedly against amalgamating ourselves with the Northern Circars. While the present capital of the province, Madras, is only 90 miles from us, we do not know where the future capital of the Andhra province will be, and what its distance from us will be. We know the wrangling over the headquarters of the Andhra University, and but for its having been fixed statutorily the wrangling would have still continued. It will not be in the interests of Chittoor to give an unqualified consent to this proposal. At the same time, I may state that when a committee is appointed to consider this question and when proposals are submitted to remove the grievances of Chittoor in this respect, it will be for the people of Chittoor to consider how

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far they would cut away from the Madras Province and merge themselves in the Andhra province. It has also been stated that there is one university for the Andhra districts and therefore it is necessary to have them constituted into a separate province. Is it then seriously suggested that if to-morrow the two Kerala districts establish a university for themselves they should be formed into a separate Kerala province of two districts? If two districts can form a province, five districts in the Ceded districts can certainly form one. I have put forward this amendment only with a view to say that no hasty steps should be taken to constitute the fourteen Telugu-speaking districts alone into a separate province from the language point only. Before the province is divided into two or three provinces for administrative, legislative and judicial purposes we ought to see whether the maximum amount of benefit will be secured for each district without sacrificing the advantages it is having under the present system. For these reasons I move the amendment standing in my name."

Mr. P. T. RAJAN :—"Sir, I have great pleasure in seconding the amendment of the hon. Member from Chittoor. Both the mover of the resolution and the seconder thereof asked our party to support the resolution. I may tell them that we as a party are not for the province or against it. The decision is left to the individual members of the party. If the Andhras all of them are unanimous in this matter, speaking on behalf of the Tamilian Members (Mr. S. Satyamurti : 'Of your party, not of ours'), I welcome them to have a separate province and I have no objection whatsoever."

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* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—"The question is that the resolution of Mr. P. Anjaneyulu be amended and the amendment is before the House for discussion."

* Mr. G. HARISARVOTTAMA RAO :—"Mr. President, Sir, I am glad that my brother from Chittoor has, in his speech at any rate, if not in his amendment, excluded the Ceded districts from the operation of his remarks. He is afraid that the province will be divided and that he is likely to suffer. When there is a separation of provinces, there are bound to be disadvantages to some people. Some will have to suffer in forming a province and in carving out empires. I ask him if he is serious at all. His whole speech is an argument in defence of the formation of an Andhra province and not against it. He wants two provinces instead of one. If he is desirous of forming two provinces, why does he object to one province being formed in the first instance? Another province can be carved out, if that is possible, when one province has been achieved."

"He talked of cost. He asked us whether this side of the House, which is crying against expenditure under the diarchical system, was prepared to shoulder expenditure in this case. I am prepared to shoulder expenditure in this case because it is part of a democratic movement. If it were a part of diarchy I should have opposed it. My hon. Friend said that our arguments are inconsistent with our policy of opposing diarchy. I consider that 'Language' is the only redeeming feature in a democratic constitution. It is the only developing feature in a democratic constitution. We are asked to vote; our people are asked to vote; our people have to get themselves acquainted with the administration; they are asked to do it in the name of democracy. We are asked at every turn whether the people have developed to rule themselves. How are they going to develop unless they are

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permitted to know what is happening in the Government through the vernacular. Unless they have the capacity to master the administration through their own mother tongue and to run it in their own mother tongue, and unless you divide the province on a linguistic basis, how is it possible to proceed with the onward march towards democracy.

"It was strange that an argument should have been put forward that we, on this side of the House, were attempting to do something much against the interests of the country. Because my hon. Friend is likely to be eaten up either by the northern Brahman or by the northern official, he seems to be afraid of the division of the province. The only way of getting over it is to kick the man who wants to subdue you, to conquer him, to rise above him and to establish your supremacy. This world is a world of struggle and if the Andhra districts should be formed into a province on the broad basis and principle of linguistic redistribution, I do not see any reason why my hon. Friends either below the gangway or on the Opposite side should oppose this harmless resolution.

"I have one word more to add with regard to the Ceded districts. There is a feeling, I admit, in some quarters that the formation of an Andhra province may involve an invasion by their northern friends. If the northern friends have come into disrepute it is because of the system of government, and because of the want of development of democratic ideas and ideals. Once we have the basic principle of recognizing the language in forming a province and running the administration and imparting education on that basis, there is bound to be improvement in the direction of strength. I am sure that none, neither the southerner, nor the Circars, neither the Brahman nor the non-Brahman, nor even the European bureaucrat will have the strength to oppose us, if we are to develop democracy through rules in our own mother tongue and develop our own capacity in the direction of better strength. I do not desire to say anything more. I request that the amendment of my hon. Friend from Chittoor should be considered as not being moved at all for all practical purposes, because, though his amendment was against us, his speech was on our side. I want, Sir, that this House should act on his speech and not on the words of his amendment"

* Mr. S. ARPUDASWAMI UDAYAR :—"Mr. President, Sir, I am sorry I have to oppose both the resolution and the amendment."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—"The amendment is now for the consideration of the House."

* Mr. S. ARPUDASWAMI UDAYAR :—"The reasons adduced for the creation of a separate Andhra province and the advantages which it is hoped to see derived from adopting the resolution are not of such a nature and importance as to justify the creation of a separate province. Reference was made to the establishment of the Andhra University on a linguistic basis. The institution of the Andhra University rests on altogether different grounds. There was ample justification for the institution of a separate Andhra University for the Andhra districts on cultural grounds. It was felt that no adequate provision was made in the old Madras University Act for the promotion of the cultural traditions of the Telugu people, for the study of their language, its grammar, its philology and a critical study on approved modern methods of its literature considered to be a valuable quarry of information for the archæologist, the antiquarian, the historian,

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and the lover of arts. It was also felt that Telugu students had no facilities for research work and for prosecuting higher studies which had in consequence to be brought nearer home. It was felt that the Telugu students had to travel to Madras and to travel further south to acquire proficiency not only in arts courses and in scientific courses but also in technical and professional studies. It was felt that, even as regards scientific studies, there was no provision for their relation to the special needs and requirements of the Andhra districts, for the adequate exploitation of the natural resources of the Telugu districts as yet imperfectly explored. It was felt that the institution of a separate university with constituent colleges dividing between them, instruction and research in all branches of learning will raise the general intellectual tone of the people of those districts and equip them for winning greater laurels than have been won by them till now. So, Sir, the Andhra University, as I have made it clear, is the outcome of special cultural needs. I ask my hon. Friends whether there are strong, urgent, administrative and political needs for having a separate province. We have the same laws, the same institutions. On the one hand, all problems which affect my Telugu brethren, such problems as irrigation the Tungabadra and other schemes which they rightly feel have been neglected, and have not been assiduously and persistently advocated and carried out and all other problems are as real and as vital to us as they are to them. On the other hand, both do stand to gain by concerted action. Before I came to this Council, I for one had no idea of the splendid men from the Telugu districts, highly gifted, candid, frank, straightforward, though sometimes emotional, I was to meet. I admire them. I was a stranger to all these facts before I came to this Council. By rubbing shoulders together, by joint discussion and solution of all administrative problems, do we not stand to gain? Therefore, my appeal to my Andhra brethren is not to constitute a new province.

"Again, Sir, I will not dilate at very great length on the financial difficulties serious as they are. In fact, I do not think that in our present financial condition it is advisable to constitute a separate province, and so impose a heavy drain on our provincial revenues. Not only that. Creating a separate province is not only undesirable from an economic standpoint; it is also undesirable from a national standpoint. Such schemes will set back the clock of progress, will accentuate separatist tendencies, and will introduce communalism with vengeance. If my hon. Friends from Telugu districts form a province to-day, if the Ceded and Central districts people form a province to-morrow, if a Karnataka province is formed the third day and a Kerala province the fourth day, where should we be? What will happen is that we shall be considering local problems and forgetting national interests. Therefore, Sir, I appeal to my brethren to toil with us and to share with us the burdens of administration, to work for the promotion of national unity and solidarity which it ought to be the aim and object of every patriot to bring about."

* Mr. R. NAGAN GOWDA:—"Sir, it is only for one that has to learn a language different from his mother tongue to realize how difficult it is to live in a part of a country where the official language is different. We in the western taluks of Bellary have to learn, to read and write Telugu which is not a language that we use at home. I want to support the amendment

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just to emphasise the point that those taluks of Bellary ought to be eliminated from the operation of this resolution, and also to show that the Ceded districts form a unit which has probably more similar problems than those of the other Andhra-speaking districts.

"It has been said that difficulties of administration would come in the way of considering the case of a small number of taluks. But I think that there are ways by which they can be solved.

"The reasons which the Andhra gentlemen have been urging for the formation of a separate Andhra province do hold good also in the case of even a few taluks with a few hundreds of thousands of people. Just for the convenience of administration I do not suppose that any people ought to be coerced into learning a language which is not their mother-tongue.

"It has been urged that financial difficulties would come in. I do not think that they would arise, because the people who govern the province through their own vernacular need not have recourse to costly English education and probably they would be willing to work for much less salaries. That would be a solution for the financial difficulties. With these words, I support the amendment."

* Mr. C. RAMASWAMYAIAH :—"Sir, my respected colleague, Mr. Arpadaswami Udayar, with his usual feelings of sincerity has given expression to some impressions and I felt bound, in all fairness to him, that he must be disillusioned of such impressions which he has managed to form. He seems to be under the impression that this proposition, if carried, is likely to foster separatist tendencies and he seems to be also under the impression that probably a strong case has not been made out for the formation of a separate Andhra province. And if I place before him, Sir, the real origin of this movement, I suppose many of his impressions would go away. As the mover of the proposition has put it, it is neither malice nor jealousy nor any other untoward sort of feeling that has brought this movement into existence. We know, Sir, that since the beginning of this century a strong principle has been working not merely in the minds of individuals but also in the minds of all nations and peoples, and that principle is the principle of self-realization. That principle has been the ruling principle ever since the beginning of this century. It has found articulate expression in many activities of several peoples of the world, and this movement for a separate province for the historic race of the Andhras is only another instance of the manifestation of this principle of self-realization. In all countries this principle of self-realization is said to be attained by what is called in politics self-determination and self-assertion in all affairs. These two are merely instruments through which this self-realization is said to be attained. If the people of the Andhra districts have started this movement, it is this principle of self-realization that lies at the back of the movement and absolutely nothing else Sir, I thank Mr. Arpadaswami Udayar for his very good words and expressions in characterizing the Telugus, and I may add one more expression to the list, although it smacks of self-gratification; and it is this, that the Andhras are not behind any other race in the matter of sacrifice, so much so that any principle of selfishness or any principle of separatist tendency on their part is out of the question in this matter of the request for a separate province of our own. So far, as the amendment of Mr. Muniswami Nayudu is concerned, Sir, I may point out that he seems to be under the impression that somehow it is only the

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Northern Circars people that are anxious about it and he seems also to take it that this is an activity or a movement fostered by the Northern Circars people. I wish to disabuse him of that impression and I wish also to bring to his recollection the fact that himself, myself as well as my friend from the Ganjam district, all of us revel in the glory of the same past, the same history, the same culture and the same civilization. It is our common civilization, it is our common past and it is our common history; so much so that he may be disillusioned of the idea that this is only an activity engineered and fostered by the Northern Circars people. And to-day, as has been pointed out by Mr. Harisarvottama Rao, it is the bond of language that is more potent in these matters than any other point, and it is this bond of language that is responsible for a common history, a common genius, a common tradition and common feelings. All these potentialities have been within us all, and we belong to a race which reared kingdoms, which has run kingdoms for a number of centuries, whose territory extended to an integral part of the whole of India for some centuries. So much so, although all these potentialities are in us, we find that only when a separate province is given to us, we can rise to our full level. It is a very simple request, Sir, that is made to this House, so that, if it is passed, hereafter at least it cannot be said in the Council of State or in the Legislative Assembly that in the Madras Legislative Council this problem has not been recognized. That is why, Sir, we have come before you for a recognition of this principle. After all, Sir, this has to be done at some time or other, and the policy has to be recognized by the Government of India.

"With reference to the question of finance, Sir, may I submit that a major portion of the revenues of this Presidency, even as it is at present constituted is being contributed by the Andhra districts. I may also point out, Sir, that even as the Presidency is at present constituted, it is very strongly felt that such a great paraphernalia as is now operating is not required for the governance of the province. Now, Sir, when once there is a division of the province into two and particularly when the major portion of the province is being constituted into a different province, I may point out that a large portion of the administrative cost of the province will be avoided consequent on the splitting up of the present province into two. But there remains the question of initial expenditure. I may say that in the case of an active and industrious people like the Andhras, when once the matter is in their hands, they are sure to develop their own resources, they are sure to develop their own industries and their other faculties, and the return to be had in the shape of additional enterprise and schemes and activities would surely pay more than the initial expenditure that is now likely to be incurred. Sir, I do not wish to dwell upon details. I appeal to every one in this House only to recognize this principle. Just as in a joint family where a particular member gets the earning capacity, or feels the strength of his wings, and goes on his career on the strength of his own individual self, may I point out to the Members of this House that here is a set of people who are known to have done many things, who are known to have got a history of their own and who are now prepared to shoulder responsibility. May I ask that they may be set apart by allotting a separate province for themselves.

"One point more, Sir, and I am done. My respected Friend Mr. Arpudawami Udayar stated that we have all to work towards the common goal

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and not divide ourselves from each other in this manner. I wish to assure him, Sir, that any idea of separatism, or working one against the other, or ignoring the one common goal has not been present in the minds of the people of the various constituencies in the Andhra districts. For the matter of that, I may point out that the Raja of Panagal was the President of the Vizagapatam Conference and I know, Sir, that Sir A. P. Patro has been a very active supporter of this question ever since its inception, so that from all sides of this House I necessarily expect a unanimous vote with reference to this question without any demur."

* Mr. K. MADHAVAN NAYAR :—"Mr. President, Sir, I oppose the amendment brought forward by Mr. Muniswami Nayudu, not on grounds put forward by Mr. Arpudaswami Udayar, but on grounds directly opposite to them. I certainly appeal to Mr. Muniswami Nayudu that it is better we wait for getting the loaf before we try to divide it. Let the linguistic principle be recognized; let the provinces be divided on a linguistic basis and then we can think of dividing each into two, or three, or four provinces, or whatever number. I am certainly not alarmed by the very gloomy picture presented by Mr. Arpudaswami Udayar. It is not independence that Andhras are claiming or that the Telugus want. What they want is that the country should be divided on the linguistic basis and the Telugu districts should be constituted into one province. They do not want to run away from the other provinces or from the other people, but they want to have a province based on the linguistic principle, simply because they have a common tradition, a common culture, etc. It is only on that ground that they want a separate province. From that one need not infer that the province so formed on a linguistic basis will be entirely separate from the others, or that it will be independent of or isolated from the rest. For various reasons, India has to be divided upon a linguistic basis, and the difficulty will be felt more and more when we come to tackle with questions pertaining to particular linguistic areas of India. For the matter of that, Sir, though Mr. Muniswami Nayudu jocularly referred to Kerala or Malabar claiming to be constituted into a different province because it comprises of only two districts and argued that the five Ceded districts may be similarly constituted into a separate province, I submit, Sir, that on the principle involved in dividing the country on a linguistic basis, Kerala has certainly the best justification and the strongest reason for being divided from the rest of the provinces and formed into a separate province. It is impossible for us, Malayalis, to make our customs, manners and habits understood by other people. Although we are only a small nation, although we constitute only two districts, the North Malabar and the South Malabar, as Cochin and Travancore form two separate Native States, we do not like to be tacked on to the Tamil Nadu or any other province, because our problems are entirely different. Of course, Kanarese may go to Bombay, Oriyas may go to Orissa and even the Ceded districts people may form themselves into a Ceded province; but that cannot be claimed now. Let the Andhra province be recognized, and then when we claim a Kerala province, when the Kanarese claim a Karnataka province and every other linguistic area claims to be constituted into a separate province, it will be time for Mr. Muniswami Nayudu to urge his claims for a different province. I therefore claim, Sir, that the amendment is out of place. We must not stretch our legs before we sit down."

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* The ZAMINDAR OF GOLLAPALLI :—“ Mr. President, Sir, in opposing the amendment, I beg to bring a few facts to the notice of this House. Before dealing with the question of forming an Andhra province, I shall deal briefly with the growth of unity of Government and its structure. In times of yore, humanity was to lead a nomadic life like some wild animals. There used to be no ties of marriage. Women used to hold, and attain authority over their children. When marriage relations came into existence, men used to lead the family. Bartering system was necessitated by the growth of increase of human wants such as food and clothing, etc. Then they settled in one place, leaving their nomadic life and formed themselves into villages and clans. They formed themselves into a community. For the interchange of their thoughts they formed a common language. Thus, evolved the state in its initial form. Every governing State had a common language for the expression of its thoughts and for unity of action. Sir, I am not going to detail to the House the different kinds of sovereignty from monarchy to ochlocracy.

4 p.m.

“ Forming a separate province for the Andhra districts is a burning question of the day as well as a long standing complaint of the people of Andhra districts through organized assemblages. It is astonishing to note the Council of State, saying that the question is not considered by the Andhra districts. Every one of us is aware how it is a burning topic of the day. Sir, as I have already said, a common thought is expressed through a common language. If any individual wants to express his views in an alien language, he has first to translate his thoughts into that language and then express himself. Sir, I shall quote a simple example. One day I and one of my Andhra friends were speaking with one of our Tamil brethren of this House. When I expressed to him some of my views, he said : ‘ Pattayya ’ instead of ‘ mark ’. Sir, he is a man who is most fluent in English in our midst. But his native tongue predominated over his habits of England and English speaking. Sir, I give this piece of episode to give you an idea as to how our native tongue would predominate over any foreign one. When our hon. Friends spoke in Tamil in this House, it was French to us Andhras and we expect the same in the case of our Tamil brethren when we speak in our Andhra language, however much it is translated. Translations can in no account equal the original in bringing out the sentiment and feeling.

“ The necessities of people speaking one language cannot be realized by others, however generous their motives may be. See, Sir, our Andhra districts have been given one agricultural school while the Tamil country has been bestowed with two or three, and a college to boot. Take the side of industrial development. Sir, the wave goes to the west and not to the Andhra districts. Why? Because the metropolis is situated in the Tamil area. One cannot go against nature. Sir, again, look at the irrigation schemes. There are the Pykhara and Mettur schemes devouring lakhs of rupees. I am not one to grudge the prosperity of my Tamil brethren. But on that depends the prosperity of the Andhras. The development of this province is hindered mainly by its heterogenous construction which is detailed above. There is a complaint that the southern Telugu districts will be neglected. But, Sir, northern districts as the Northern Circars and the southern districts like Nellore, Chittoor and Ceded districts have to co-operate in forming an Andhra province.

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"There is a complaint that by forming a new Andhra province we are to face a large amount of expenditure in the shape of buildings and separate staff for the general administration of the province. We can locate our metropolis of the province in such a place as is already furnished with decent buildings, like Cocanada or Bezvada and improve it as time goes on. New Delhi sprang up in ten years. So it would not be harmful if a new capital is to be constructed within twenty years. As for the administration, the province can be managed by a Lieutenant-Governor or Commissioner assisted by two or three executive heads with less number of secretaries. Now, Sir, we are paying our share of the expenditure in the general administration and other departments of this Government. If we have to pay them separately, by Indianizing the departments as far as possible, we can carry on the administration with less cost and more efficiency. Sir, we have got our claim in the buildings of this metropolis as we subscribed to their construction. It is not unfair if we claim some contribution from the Madras Government for our buildings in our metropolis. I make this suggestion for what it is worth

"Sir, every one of us aims at constitutional government, democratic government and provincial autonomy. But the delay in achieving the above form need not deter us from getting a separate province for the Andhras.

"Sir, there was an objection in the Council of State that the interests of the border people such as the Oriyas and the Tamilians will be neglected. Their districts may be amalgamated in the presidencies of Madras or Bihar and Orissa where their languages are spoken.

"So, Sir, I have endeavoured to show to the House that there is not an iota of difficulty in forming a complete Andhra province comprising all the Telugu-speaking districts with all its organs, legislative, administrative and judicial. For these reasons I oppose the amendment."

Mr. K. KOTI REDDI:—"Mr. President, Sir, I oppose the amendment moved by my hon. Friend from Chittoor. I will confine my attention at present to the amendment moved, and I hope I will be given an opportunity of speaking on the main motion which is not at present under discussion. The amendment moved by my Friend clearly shows that there is really a necessity for the separation of the Telugu districts from the rest of the Madras Presidency, and the question whether we are to have a separate Andhra province or not will be voted upon later. The present question is really whether, if a separate province for the Andhras is to be carved out, the Ceded districts and Chittoor should separate themselves from that Andhra province. On the amendment now under discussion, technically speaking, I suppose there ought not to be any objection to carve out provinces out of any of the smallest or any of the biggest areas, and as such there ought not to be any objection to Chittoor and the Ceded districts being formed into a separate province. But, Sir, the chief objection raised against the formation of an Andhra province, namely, finance will be in the way of having a separate province at present for the Ceded districts and Chittoor. If we have an Andhra province of our own, the time will come when the Ceded districts and Chittoor feel the necessity of separating from the rest of the Telugu districts, and then there will be time enough to think of it. But at present, before we separate from the rest of the Presidency, it is too early to think of having a province of our own. But I believe, Sir, the real

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objection that might be raised by the Members or by the people of the Ceded districts for the formation of an Andhra province seems to be not so much on the principle on which the formation of an Andhra province is based, but on matters which are more or less of a domestic character or relating to expediency. The main objection raised by some of us seems to be the question of the capital. Some of us seem to believe that if an Andhra province is to be formed, the capital may not be in Madras, but may be located somewhere in Bezwada or Vizagapatam or somewhere in the north. I believe, Sir, if each one of us who is anxious to form a separate province claims to have its capital in its own district, the time will not come when it will have a separate province. After having a province, let all of us sit together and find a place which is suitable to most of us, if it is not possible to find a place which is suitable to all of us. Some of us will have to suffer for the sake of the good of the many. But I believe a place could be found somewhere on the banks of the Kistna which is probably equi-distant from all districts to be formed into the Andhra province. But, however, let us consider that question, not now, but at the time when we realize the Andhra province. But till then we are not to be prejudiced by that idea of having a particular place as the capital. It may be somewhere, but that ought not to prejudice us in our voting for or against the Andhra province or the amendment to this motion. Some of us may no doubt feel that Madras would be more convenient. The Ceded districts might probably be inconvenienced, but the principle of carving out a separate province for the Andhras does not really concern much the convenience of a few districts. As I said already, on the main question of having a separate province or not, I shall have my say, but granting that we are having a separate province of our own, I am not at present in favour of separating ourselves from the other Andhra districts. Time probably will come if necessary, but it has not come now at any rate. Let us have a province of our own, and if time comes, and if it is considered necessary that the Ceded districts and Chittoor and probably Nellore should have a separate province, let us think about it then. But let us get an Andhra province and then see, if necessary, if we cannot have a separate province for the Ceded districts, if we feel the necessity for it. But till then we ought not to divide our forces, each district or a group of a few districts claiming a separate province. As such, I oppose the amendment."

* Mr. A PARASURAMA BAO :—" Mr. President, I am called upon to speak on this amendment because the mover of the amendment especially referred to the district which I represent. It is rather curious to find the mover of the amendment taking the responsibility for saying that the Ceded districts should be excluded from the Andhra province which is intended to be formed. No doubt, according to his view, probably he thinks that that would do good to the Ceded districts. But the people in the Ceded districts themselves are better able to take care of their position and they quite see that their position would be better if they are tacked on to the other province of the Telugus, that is the Northern Circars than it would be if they are separated from them. There is absolutely no anxiety on the part of the people of Cuddapah or the other districts which form the Ceded districts as to whether they will be treated on terms of equality by their brethren of the Northern Circars. But they are prepared to assert themselves and claim perfect equality with them. (Hear, hear.) There is absolutely no

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sort of anxiety so far as that is concerned. But the principle of carving out provinces, as I understand it, is only for the sake of facilitating the administration of provinces. And if by forming a separate Andhra province it is found on any day that it becomes also very unwieldy, then there will be enough time to consider whether, as the hon. Mover thinks, there should be a separate province for the Ceded districts and Chittoor. Then it will be really considered. But now, at present, there need not be any trouble about it. But as some of the hon. Gentlemen said that this will engender a spirit of separatist action, I say it cannot, because history has shown us that a federation of states has been a very convenient method for the purpose of the administration of any country. We have been seeing this in the western countries where for purposes of convenience small states have been formed into federated unions and such federated unions have been working satisfactorily well so far as the administration is concerned. I fail to understand why there should be any fear with regard to the separatist movement or any feeling of a separatist kind being engendered on the part of any of the hon. Members. So, Sir, I oppose the amendment."

* Mr. BASHEER AHMED:—"Sir, I move that the question be now put."

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* Sriman BISWANATH DAS Mahasayo:—"I second it."

* The hon. Mr. N. E. MARJORIBANKS:—"Mr. President, Sir, I do not wish to discuss this very large and important question on the merits because I do not feel that the time is yet ripe for such discussion of the matter. The opinions that have been expressed by hon. Members of this House in this debate will, of course, be forwarded to the Government of India for their information with reference to the provisions of section 52-A of the Government of India Act. But the Local Government do not propose to deal with the matter. I would, however, indicate one or two considerations that actuate them. One is that this question of dividing provinces on a linguistic basis is hardly one that can be considered only with reference to one province, and if it is considered with reference to the whole of India, it may need very careful consideration as to the political and economic effects. There is also the consideration that if the whole of India was divided into provinces on the linguistic basis, it might not afford altogether as promising a field for the advancement of self-government as it would if they remain constituted as at present."

"The matter is one that will require very careful examination and I have no doubt that it will have to be dealt with at length before the next advance when the reforms take place."

The amendment was put and declared lost.

* The hon. the PRESIDENT:—"I wish to know when the hon. Member Mr. Biswanath Das gave notice of his amendment to-day. Under Standing Order 60 I have to excuse the short notice. What are the circumstances connected with the short notice?"

* Sriman BISWANATH DAS Mahasayo:—"Sir, I believe the ballot took place on the 7th. So the earliest day of despatch must have been 8th or 9th. It takes not less than four days for letters from Madras to reach my post office."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT:—"When did the hon. Member get notice of this resolution?"

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* Sriman BISWANATH DAS Mahasayo :—"Another was sent to my private address at Madras and I got it here."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—"The Secretary says that the resolution was communicated long ago."

* Sriman BISWANATH DAS Mahasayo :—"It takes 4 days to reach my village as I have already stated."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—"I am asking when the resolution was given notice of to the hon. Member."

* Sriman BISWANATH DAS Mahasayo :—"I arrived at Madras to-day. I could not have seen the resolutions earlier."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—"Further I want to know this. This resolution is that the contiguous Telugu-speaking area be constituted into a separate Andhra province. I wish to know whether there is any Oriya-speaking area within the contiguous Telugu-speaking area."

* Sriman BISWANATH DAS Mahasayo :—"Yes, Sir."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—"I wish to know the geographical fact whether there is any Oriya-speaking area in the Telugu-speaking area."

* Sriman BISWANATH DAS Mahasayo :—"Certainly. It is not known which are the contiguous areas constituting the Andhra districts. The only place where we find the definition of the word is the Andhra University Act which includes the Oriya-speaking tracts. We do not know which are the contiguous Andhra districts."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—"I am not satisfied as to the reasons why the short notice should be excused. The fact that he opened his tapal addressed to the local address to-day is no excuse for giving short notice. Further I have to rule it out of order because this Oriya-speaking tract is not in any contiguous Telugu-speaking area and therefore it is foreign to the resolution. Therefore I rule it out of order."

Mr. B. Ramachandra Reddi has given notice of another amendment. I wish to know why he wants to get the excuse for short notice."

Mr. B. RAMACHANDRA REDDI :—"This afternoon during lunch time while I was discussing with some others regarding this question I was prompted to give notice of this amendment which would serve as a compromise between the original resolution and the amendment which has been just now lost. I wanted to see a unanimous vote of this House on this point."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—"I am not satisfied with the reasons given and therefore I cannot suspend the Standing Order."

* Sriman BISWANATH DAS Mahasayo :—"I bow down to your ruling in disallowing my amendment. If the contiguous Oriya-speaking tracts and the contiguous Kanarese-speaking tracts are excluded I very whole-heartedly support the resolution. I support it on the ground of linguistic division of provinces. The principle of the linguistic division of provinces may seem an ideal. It is an ideal that is inculcated into the minds of the hon. Members by a resolution of the Congress in 1917 where the Congress as a body accepted the principle of linguistic division of provinces. The Oriyas conceived the idea of linguistic division of provinces in 1901 and began their

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agitation. From that day they pressed the Congress to accept the linguistic division of provinces as a principle. That not being accepted and that being definitely given up in 1905 in Madras the Oriyas seceded from it. I am very glad to say to-day that not only the Congress accepted the principle of linguistic division of provinces but ever since 1911 when Lord Hardinge wrote that famous despatch he clearly and definitely stated that a time would come, and it did come very early, when the different provinces in India should be divided on a linguistic basis. Well, Sir, it is not only an idea that is alive in the minds of Indians but if we look into the Parliamentary proceedings in the Fifties it will be found that John Bright conceived the idea of smaller states for better Government and insisted upon dividing India into separate smaller units for the convenience of administration. Sir, my friends on the other side have opposed it on the ground of finance. May I remind them that money has been wasted month after month and year after year in various ways, and to quote an instance in point we find in the *Fort St. George Gazette* notifications and proposed bills, etc., are published in Tamil, Telugu, Malayalam, Kanarese and Oriya. May I appeal to them whether this is not a waste of time and money. If the Oriya tracts are amalgamated, the Oriya translator will not be a necessity to the Government of Madras. If the Kanarese people are amalgamated there will not be the necessity for a Kanarese translator. The district gazette, Sir, in my district, is issued in three editions—English, Telugu and Oriya. In various other ways I have brought to the notice of this House that a lot of money is wasted. Appoint a committee, you will verify the truth. The famous declaration of 1917 lays down the conception of different political status for India. It conceives of a status where the administration will be conducted by the people and for the people. We are having the administration for the people. Now, Sir, our constituencies ask us what we are doing. Will every Member place his hand on his breast and say that his constituency knows what he is doing? So, it is for the better Government, and for the real control of the people's representatives on the executive Government that it is essential that there should be a linguistic division of provinces transacting business in vernacular which alone could assure the Government of the people and by the people. These two put together will make the Government for the people. So, Sir, the question of the linguistic division of provinces is neither parochial nor communal. It is a legitimate claim of every people constituting the vast empire of India. Looking at the census figures I find we may have ten provinces in India, if it is to be divided on language basis, and we have to cut our cloth according to our needs. If we cannot go in for a costly province we need not maintain a costly establishment. People who will be educated in the vernacular will conduct the proceedings in vernacular and render administration less costly. Many of us may not have so much to invest in the education of our children and many may not feel the necessity of sending their sons to Britain for getting into Government service. There are various other ways of improving the finance. Therefore, finance should not be a bar when the question of principle comes in and when the question of linguistic division of provinces comes to practical politics. With these words I heartily support the resolution for a separate linguistic province for the Andhras, with this reservation, that the Oriya-speaking tracts now included in the Andhradesa be separated as also the Kanarese-speaking population.

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"Again, Sir, I have also to sound a note of warning. While passing the Andhra University Act, the then Minister for Education, Sir A. P. Patro, assured us that the Oriya language as also the Kanarese will be equally treated. Now the Vernacularisation Committee of the Andhra University which is sitting at Bezwada has definitely given us the verdict that 'no more we are going to recognize your languages; if you choose to remain in the Andhradesa you must learn Telugu.' That is what we are getting from the Andhra University. It is therefore desirable that the Andhras should be constituted into a separate province, and that the outlying Oriya tracts should be added to Utkal. So also the Kanarese population should be added to Kanara. I shall also be glad to see the day when my Malayali friends will move for a separate province and force the Government for the formation of a separate Malayali province. I find they are more than seven millions in population, and it will be a glorious day for them and for us to have a separate Malayali province.

"With these words, I strongly support the resolution."

MR. BIKKINA VENKATARATNAM :—“ తీర్మానము బలపరచుచు, ఈ భాషా ప్రయత్న రాష్ట్ర విభజనవిషయమున చిరకాలమునుండి ఆంధోళన జరుగుచున్న దనియు రాయల్ కమిషనువారుగూడ సిద్ధాంతము నంగీకరించిరిని పెద్దలు చెప్పిరినియు, ఇట్టి విభజనవలన ఆంగ్లభాష నేర్పియుండని పల్లెటూరి ప్రజలకును రాజ్యపరిపాలనా విధానమందు పాలుపైకొనుట కవకాశమును, సౌకర్యము లేర్పడగలవనియు నుడిచిరి. ‘నే సీసభలో తెలుగుమాట్లాడిన అరవవారికి తెలియదు. అరవవారు అరవము మాట్లాడిన నాకు తెలియదని విచారించెదను.’ ఇట్టి చిక్కు శ్రీ ప్రత్యేక రాష్ట్రమువలన తొలగగలవు. ప్రజా స్వామ్యమనిన ప్రజలకు రాజ్యపాలనమందు పాలునుట కవకాశములుండవలెను. ఈ విభజనవలన పరిపాలనా సౌకర్య మధికముగాగలదు. ప్రజలు రాజ్యాధికారముగలవారగుచో రాజ్యతంత్రము, ఉద్యోగముల మెరుగుబడుట మొదలగునవి పోయి న్యాయమైన పరిపాలన జరుగగలదు. ఏదేశముగాని, విప్రజలుగాని వృద్ధిజెందవలెనని భావప్రధానము. భాషవల్లనే దేశమునందైకమత్యము ఏర్పడును. ఇంగ్లండులో ప్రజలందరుకుల సంబంధ మొక భాషాసంబంధము. కావున ఈ తీర్మానము తప్పక ఎల్లరు అంగీకరింపవలెను. ప్రభుత్వమువారును ‘మీకు జ్ఞానమింకను రాలేదు, మీరు పిల్లల’ని మామూలుపాట వాడక తీర్మాన మంగీకరించి ఆచరణలో పెట్టవలెను.”

* Mr. V. Ch. JOHN :—“ Mr. President, Sir, after the speech of my hon. Friend Mr. Venkataratnam, I think this House is in a better position to understand the motive of the people for making the speeches in favour of a separate province. He has eloquently spoken in Telugu, and I think half of the members of this House could not understand what he said, and that is one of the most potent arguments which he advanced as to why we should have a separate province. Of course, there are other reasons. Sitting here, I could not very well follow some of the discussions regarding some topics like the Cauvery Project and such other things. I do not have much local knowledge about those things. If people, from such big distances, are brought together and are made to discuss things about which most of them do not know much and some of them do not know anything at all, you can see that we waste our time here and that we do not benefit ourselves much by such discussions. That is one thing.

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[Mr. V. Ch. John]

"Secondly, all the speakers that have spoken so far, with the exception of my hon. Friend Mr. Arpudaswami Udayar, all of them have practically supported this resolution. Because some of those people when they proposed some amendments only wanted to further divide the province, and that does not mean that they were against the constitution of a separate province for the Andhras. They also wanted a slice for themselves, a separate province for themselves based on linguistic considerations. So, on the urgency for having a separate province on linguistic basis, they are all agreed.

"Now, why do we want a separate province, and why do we not like to continue as at present? Our argument is this: the Telugu-speaking people form 43 per cent of the total population of this Presidency, and the revenues derived from the Telugu districts amount to about 43 per cent of the total revenues. I do not think any other linguistic area in this Presidency can claim the same figures, and so let the Telugus, who constitute such a big portion of the Presidency, have a separate province of their own. It does not mean that other people should not have separate provinces. There will be time for discussing such things later on.

"Again, one point which came from my hon. Friend Mr. Arpudaswami Udayar, which surprised me much, but which did not however appeal to me, was that they wanted to rub shoulders with the Telugus and so on. But, if it is for rubbing shoulders, why do you stop there? Why did he not desire to rub shoulders with the Mahrattas and others, so that his shoulders may be more comfortable (laughter). Now, whatever it be, it is not merely to satisfy that kind of desire. He also read some motives into our speeches; for instance, he said that the Telugus were for a separate province and that that was due to separatist tendencies. We never thought of such things. We wanted to have a separate province so that the Telugu people might better express themselves in their own mother tongue, so that the Telugu people might have better opportunities to try their administrative skill and other talents in their own country, and also that they might talk about and administer things more intelligently. Now, the Andhra country is administered from such a distant capital, and you do not know what is going on there. You may talk here things which the people there do not like at all, and so from the point of view of the administrative necessity also, the Telugu districts so far away from Madras, ought to be constituted into a separate province. Personally speaking, if you will excuse a digression, those things do not primarily bother me. On the merits of the case, I argue for a separate province. I wish to give a piece of my mind to the whole House. We have been asking for political rights and administrative advantages. Personally, I believe that the first thing that ought to be secured is social emancipation. Political emancipation without social emancipation is an impossibility. You want political justice, political freedom and all that. The chief glory of our country is social inequality and social injustice. I doubt very much whether we can get far so long as we do not remedy that evil. I would have rejoiced more if attempts were made to introduce healthy social legislation. . . ."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—"The hon. Member is requested to confine himself to the resolution."

* Mr. V. Ch. JOHN :—"Anyway, on the merits of the case, I personally believe that there ought to be a separate province for the Andhras."

[Mr. V. Ch. John]

[14th March 1927]

"Another thing which my hon. Friend Mr. Arpudaswami Udayar dasi was that they had no objection to a separate Audhra University because otherwise the Telugu students had to go all the way to Madras; but what about our people coming from Ganjam to Madras for litigation purposes? The very argument he used is also an argument in favour of a separate Andhra province. Though he was the one person who opposed the formation of a separate province, yet his arguments, I think, rather supported the motion than opposed it. All others heartily supported this motion. Since it is not to injure anybody else and since it is only to set our house in order, other people should not grudge our demand to separate ourselves linguistically and administratively, and we hope to derive greater benefits from a separation of that sort. We do not have any other motive; at least I do not have, and I do not think my hon. Friends have. I hope all the hon. Members would join together and lend their hearty support to this resolution.

"But one thing I notice is that some people who were hitherto for a separate province and who were freely expressing themselves in favour of a separate political, administrative unit for the Andhras—I have a suspicion about some of them—are trying to drop out. I hope they will now come forward and give their support. This is not a party question. I hope they will rise above party considerations and help the Telugus in constituting a separate province for themselves."

Mr. K. V. R. SWAMI:— 'I move that the question be now put "

Mr. KALESWARA RAO:—"I second it".

The motion for closure was put and declared carried.

Sir A. P. Patro demanded a poll and the House divided as follows:—

4-45
P.M.

Ayes 36.

- | | |
|---------------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| 1. The Zamindar of Gollapalle. | 19. Mr. M. A. Manikkavelu Nayakar. |
| 2. Mr G. R. Premayya. | 20. " J. A. Saldanha. |
| 3. " Sami Venkatachalam Chetti. | 21. " C. Obi Reddi. |
| 4. " S. Satyamurti. | 22. " A. Parasurama Rao. |
| 5. " C. V. Venkataramana Ayyangar. | 23. " U. Ramaswami Ayyar. |
| 6. " T. Adinarayana Chettiyar. | 24. " C. Ramasomayajulu. |
| 7. " P. Anjaneyulu. | 25. " Basheer Ahmad Sayeed. |
| 8. " K. Koti Reddi. | 26. " P. Bakthavatsalu Nayudu. |
| 9. " S. Muttayya Mudaliyar. | 27. Sriman Biswanath Das Mahasayo. |
| 10. " P. C. Venkatapati Raju. | 28. Mr. A. Kaleswara Rao. |
| 11. " G. Harisarvottama Rao. | 29. " R. Srinivasa Ayyangar. |
| 12. " C. N. Muthurangam Mudaliyar. | 30. " Syed Ibrahim Sahib. |
| 13. " Abdul Hamied Khan. | 31. " K. S. Siva Subramania Ayyar. |
| 14. " K. V. R. Swami. | 32. " L. K. Tulasiram. |
| 15. " K. P. V. S. Md. Meeru Ravuttar. | 33. " K. R. Karant. |
| 16. " D. Narayana Raju. | 34. " K. V. Krishnaswami Nayakar. |
| 17. " B. Narayana Reddi. | 35. " K. Madhavan Nayar. |
| 18. Mr. B. S. Mallayya. | 36. " B. Venkataratnam. |

Noes 41.

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|---|--|
| 1. The hon. Mr. N. E. Marjoribanks. | 8. Mr. J. F. Hall. |
| 2. " Khan Bahadur Muhammad Usman Sahib Bahadur. | 9. " P. L. Moore. |
| 3. " Mr. T. E. Moir. | 10. " G. T. Boag. |
| 4. " Diwan Bahadur R. N. Arogya-
swami Mudaliyar | 11. " V. Pandrang Row. |
| 5. " Mr. A. Ranganatha Mudaliyar. | 12. " S. H. Slater. |
| 6. " Dr. P. Subbarayan. | 13. " C. B. Cotterell. |
| 7. Mrs. Muthulakshmi Reddi. | 14. Khan Bahadur Md. Bazl-ul-lah Sahib
Bahadur. |
| | 15. The Zamindar of Seithur. |

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16. Mr. K. Muppil Nayar.
17. „ Nagan Gowda.
18. Subadar-Major S. A. Nanjappa.
19. Mr. C. R. Parthasarathi Ayyangar.
20. „ N. Siva Raj.
21. „ M. V. Gangadhara Siva.
22. „ W. P. A. Soundarapandia Nadar.
23. „ S. Subramanya Mooppanar.
24. „ S. V. Vanavudaiya Goundar.
25. „ K. R. Venkatarama Ayyar.
26. Rao Sahib R. Srinivasan.
27. Sir Alexander MacDougall.
28. The Raja of Ramnad.
29. Kumara Raja of Venkatagiri.

30. Mr. B. Ramachandra Reddi.
31. The Raja of Panagal.
32. Sir A. P. Patro, Rao Bahadur.
33. Diwan Bahadur M. Krishnan Nayar.
34. Mr. P. T. Rajan.
35. „ T. K. Chidambaranatha Mudaliyar.
36. „ S. N. Durai Raja.
37. Rao Sahib S. Ellappa Chettiyyar.
38. Kadir Mohiuddin Sabib Bahadur.
39. Diwan Bahadur S. Kumaraswami Reddiyar.
40. Rao Bahadur B. Muniswami Nayudu.
41. The Zamindar of Mirzapuram.

The motion for closure was lost.

* Diwan Bahadur M. KRISHNAN NAYAR :—“ Sir, after a careful consideration of the arguments that have been advanced on the floor of this House, both in favour of and against this resolution, I have come to the conclusion that I must oppose it. The resolution is that the contiguous Telugu-speaking area in the Presidency be constituted into a separate ‘Andhra province.’ No doubt the amendment moved by Mr. Muniswami Nayudu for exclusion of certain portion from this province was not carried by this House. We have heard speeches from Mr. Muniswami Nayudu and Mr. Nagan Gowda representing the Chittoor district and the Bellary district respectively to the effect that their districts should not be included in the Andhra province. I have no belief in compelling portions of this Presidency to form part of a separate province against their will.

“ Then, it has been said that it is desirable to form an Andhra province, a Tamil province and a Kerala province. It may be so or it may not be so. In any case, if it is necessary to constitute these different parts of the Presidency into different provinces on a linguistic basis, it seems to me that the best method to adopt is the taking up of the whole as one scheme and appointing a committee by this Government or by the orders of the Government of India for the purpose of considering the whole question and deciding how many provinces should be constituted, whether three or four on the basis of languages, Telugu, Tamil, Malayalam or Kanarese. The whole scheme should be considered as one. It is not desirable to consider this in a piecemeal fashion.

“ Then it has been argued by my Friend Mr. Anjaneyulu and some other gentlemen who spoke on the subject, that because the Andhra University has been established, therefore it is necessary to establish a separate Andhra province. It seems to me, with great respect to those gentlemen, that that argument is untenable.

“ Then as to the arguments advanced as to cost, even such of my friends as were in favour of this motion admitted that there must be a considerable amount by way of initial cost. It goes without saying that as initial cost a large amount will have to be spent. Then we shall have to incur considerable annual recurring expenditure. When a separate province is constituted, there must be a separate head of administration whether a Governor, or as has been referred to by one of my hon. Colleagues, a Lieut-Governor or any other administrative head. I suppose he has to be paid very decently also. Then it will be necessary to establish a separate High Court in the

[Mr. M. Krishnan Nayar]

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Andhra province, and so on. The posts of the highly paid officers and costly institutions will have to be separately sanctioned for this new province, so that the 43·6 per cent revenue referred to by Mr. Anjaneyulu will hardly be adequate for expenditure to be incurred on these things. So, additional taxes will have to be imposed. Even such of my friends as are in favour of this scheme now, will be against the impost of a new burden. The wisest course therefore seems to me for this Council not to accept this resolution."

Mr. SAMI VENKATACHALAM CHETTI :—"I move, Sir, that the question be now put."

Mr. S. SATYAMURTI :—"I second it."

The motion was carried.

The main motion was then put and declared carried.

Diwan Bahadur M. Krishnan Nayar demanded a poll and the House divided thus :—

Ayes 40.

- | | |
|---------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| 1. The Zamindar of Seithur. | † 22. Mr. D. Narayana Raju. |
| † 2. Mr. V. Ch. John. | † 23. " C. B. Narayana Reddi. |
| 3. " A. B. Shetty | † 24. " C. Obi Reddi. |
| 4. " Mahmud Schamnad Sahib. | † 25. " A. Parasurama Rao. |
| † 5. " S. Venkiah. | 26. " U. Ramaswami Ayyar. |
| 6. " K. R. Venkatarama Ayyar. | † 27. " C. Ramasomayajulu. |
| † 7. The Zamindar of Kalikota. | 28. " Basheer Ahmad Sayeed. |
| † 8. Mr. G. R. Premayya. | 29. " P. Baktavatsalu Nayudu. |
| 9. " Sami Venkatachalam Chetti. | † 30. Srinan Biswanath Das Mahesayo. |
| 10. " S. Satyamurti. | † 31. Mr. A. Kuleswara Rao. |
| 11. " C. V. Venkataramana Ayyangar. | 32. " R. Srinivasa Ayyangar. |
| 12. " T. Adinarayana Chettiyar. | 33. " Syed Ibrahim Sahib. |
| † 13. " P. Anjaneyalu. | 34. " K. S. Sivasubrahmanya Ayyar. |
| 14. " S. Muttayya Mulaliyar. | 35. " L. K. Ulasiram. |
| † 15. " K. Koti Reddi. | 36. " K. R. Kurant. |
| † 16. " P. C. Venkatapati Raju. | 37. " K. V. Krishnaswami Nayakar. |
| † 17. " G. Harisarvottana Rao | 38. " M. A. Manikkavelu Nayakar. |
| 18. " C. N. Muthuranga Mudaliyar. | 39. " Madhavan Nayar. |
| 19. " Abdal Hamid Khan | † 40. Diwan Bahadur P. C. Ethirajulu |
| † 20. " K. V. B. Swami. | Nayudu. |
| 21. " K. P. V. S. Md. Meera Ravuttar. | |

Noes 32.

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1. The hon. Mr. N. E. Marjoribanks. | 17. Mr. Syed Tajudin Sahib Bahadur. |
| 2. " Khan Bahadur Muhammad Usman Sahib Bahadur. | 18. Sir Alexander MacDougall. |
| 3. " Mr. T. E. Moir. | 19. Rao Sahib R. Srinivasan. |
| 4. " Diwan Bahadur R. N. Arogyaswami Mudaliar. | 20. The Raja of Ramnad. |
| 5. Mr. J. F. Hall. | † 21. The Raja of Palagal. |
| 6. " H. Tireman. | 22. Diwan Bahadur M. Krishnan Nayar. |
| 7. " G. T. Boag. | 23. Mr. T. K. Chidambaranatha Mudaliyar. |
| 8. " V. Pandurang Row. | 24. " S. N. Dorai Raju. |
| 9. " S. H. Slater. | 25. Rao Sahib S. Ellappa Chettiyar. |
| 10. " C. B. Cotterell. | 26. Diwan Bahadur S. Kumaraswami Reddiyar. |
| 11. Khan Bahadur Bazl-ul-lah Sahib Bahadur. | † 27. Rao Bahadur B. Muniswami Nayudu. |
| 12. Mr. H. B. Ari Gowder. | 28. Mr. K. Ramachandra Palayachi. |
| † 13. " C. R. Parthasarathi Ayyangar. | † 29. " B. Nagan Gowda. |
| 14. " N. Siva Raj. | 30. Subadar-Major S. A. Nanjappa Bahadur. |
| † 15. " M. V. Gangadhara Siva. | 31. Mr. W. P. A. Soundarapandia Nadar. |
| 16. " S. V. Vanavudaiya Gounder. | 32. " S. Subrahmanya Mooppanar. |

† The names against which a dagger [†] has been placed are those representing the contiguous territorial unit in which the Telugu language is spoken.

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Neutral 6.

- | | |
|--|-------------------------------------|
| † 1. The hon. Mr. A. Ranganatha Mudaliyar. | † 5. Muhammad Khadir Muhideen Sahib |
| † 2. Kumara Raja of Venkatagiri. | Bahadur. |
| † 3. Mr. B. Ramachandra Reddi. | † 6. The Zaminder of Mirzapuram |
| † 4. Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. Patro. | |

40 hon. Members voted *for* the motion and 32 *against*, and 6 remained *neutral*.

The motion was carried.

(The announcement was received with applause by a part of the House.)

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" No clapping of hands, please.

" Paragraph 15 of the Joint Report says :

' On the other hand, they are of opinion that any clear request made by a majority of the Members of a Legislative Council representing a distinctive racial or linguistic territorial unit for its constitution under this clause as a sub-province or a separate province should be taken as a *prima facie* case on the strength of which a commission of inquiry might be appointed by the Secretary of State, and that it should not be a bar to the appointment of such a commission of inquiry that the majority of the Legislative Council of the province in question is opposed to the request of the minority representing such a distinctive territorial unit.'

' In this case, I direct the Secretary, from the Division list to make another list of the representatives of the contiguous Telugu-speaking area and also publish it along with the proceedings relating to this motion."

The House then adjourned to meet again at 11 a.m. the next day.

R. V. KRISHNA AYYAR,
Secretary to the Legislative Council.

† The names against which a dagger [†] has been placed are those representing the contiguous territorial unit in which the Telugu language is spoken.

[14th March 1927]

APPENDIX.

[Vide answer to question No. 255 asked by Mr. J. A. Saldanha at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on the 14th March 1927, page 28 supra.]

Superior Services dealt with by the Lee Commission.	Recommendations of the Commission.	Latest Development.
The Indian Civil Service.	A composition of 50 per cent Europeans and 50 per cent Indians should be attained in 15 years. The rate of recruitment should be 40 per cent Europeans and 60 per cent Indians until the above composition is reached.	The recommendation has been accepted and is now being carried out.
The Indian Police Service.	A composition of 50 per cent Europeans and 50 per cent Indians should be attained in 25 years from the date on which the new scheme of recruitment comes into operation. The rate of recruitment should be in the same proportion.	Do. do.
The Indian Forest Service.	The rate of recruitment should be 25 per cent Europeans and 75 per cent Indians in Provinces in which Forest Administration is reserved.	The orders of the Secretary of State have not yet been received.
The Indian Service of Engineers.	The rate of recruitment should be 40 per cent Europeans and 60 per cent Indians in Madras where there is a combined cadre working both in the Roads and Buildings Branch (Transferred) and in the Irrigation Branch (Reserved).	It has been decided that the rate of recruitment should be 33 per cent Europeans and 67 per cent Indians.
The Indian Agricultural Service, the Indian Veterinary Service and the Indian Educational Service.	The services should be provincialized and recruitment should rest entirely with the Local Government subject to the protection of the rights of existing members of these services.	The recommendation has been accepted and further recruitment to these All-India Services has been stopped. Powers have also been delegated to Local Governments enabling them to build up new Provincial Services to take the place of the old All-India Services on the Transferred side. The question of the manner in which these services should be constituted is under consideration.
The Indian Medical Service.	The service should be provincialized and recruitment should rest entirely with the Local Government subject to the condition that a minimum number of British Medical officers should be maintained in the Civil Medical Service to meet the medical needs of British officers in the Civil Services and their families.	The orders of the Secretary of State have not yet been received.

THE MADRAS LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

Tuesday, the 15th March 1927.

The House met at 11 o'clock, Mr. President (the hon. Rao Bahadur C. V. S. NARASIMHA RAJU Garu) in the chair.

PRESENT:

Ramaswami Ayyar, K.C.I.E., The hon. Sir C. P. Marjoribanks, C.S.I., C.I.E., The hon. Mr. N. E. Usman Sahib Bahadur, The hon. Khan Bahadur Muhammad.
Moir, C.S.I., C.I.E., The hon. Mr. T. E. Subbarayan, The hon. Mr. P. Ranganatha Mudaliyar, The hon. Mr. A. Arogyaswami Mudaliyar, The hon. Diwan Bahadur R. N.
Abdul Razaq Sahib Bahadur, Khan Bahadur S. K.
Adinarayana Chettiyar, Mr. T. Anjaneyulu, Mr. P.
Ari Gowder, Mr. H. B.
Arpudaswami Udayar, Mr. S.
Basheer Ahmed Sayeed Sahib Bahadur.
Bazl-ul-lah Sahib Bahadur, C.I.E., C.B.E., Khan Bahadur Muhammad.
Bhaktavatsalu Nayudu, Mr. P.
Bheemayya, Mr. J.
Biswanath Das Mahasayo, Sriman.
Boag, Mr. G. T.
Chidambaranatha Mudaliyar, Mr. T. K.
Congreve, Mr. C. R. T.
Cotterell, C.I.E., Mr. C. B.
Dorai Raja, Mr. S. N.
Ellappa Chettiyar, Rao Sahib S.
Ethirajulu Nayudu, Diwan Bahadur P. C.
Gangadhara Siva, Mr. M. V.
Gopala Menon, Mr. C.
Govindaraja Mudaliyar, Mr. C. S.
Guruswami, Rao Sahib L. C.
Hall, O.B.E., Mr. J. F.
Hamid Khan Sahib Bahadur, Abdul.
Harisarvottama Rao, Mr. G.
Hawley, Mr. H.
John, Mr. V. Ch.
Kaleswara Rao, Mr. A.
Kameswara Rao Nayudu, Mr. V.
Karant, Mr. K. R.
Khadir Mohidin Sahib Bahadur, Muhammad.
Koti Reddi, Mr. K.
Krishnan, Mr. K.
Krishnan Nayar, Diwan Bahadur M.
Krishnaswami Nayakar, Mr. K. V.
Kumara Raja of Venkatagiri.
Kumaraswami Reddiyar, Diwan Bahadur S.
MacDougall, Kt., Sir Alexander.
Madhavan Nayar, Mr. K.
Mahmud Schamnad Sahib Bahadur.
Mallayya, Mr. B. S.
Manikkavelu Nayakar, Mr. M. A.
Marudavanam Pillai, Mr. O.

Meera Ravuttar Bahadur, K. P. V. S. Muhammad.
Moidoo Sahib Bahadur, T. M.
Moore, C.I.E., Mr. P. L.
Muniswami Nayudu, Rao Bahadur B.
Muniswami Pillai, Mr. V. I.
Muppil Nayar of Kavalappara, Mr.
Muttayya Mudaliyar, Mr. S.
Muthulakshmi Reddi, Dr. (Mrs.).
Muthuranga Mudaliyar, Mr. C. N.
Nagan Gowda, Mr. R.
Nanjappa Bahadur, Subadar-Major S. A.
Narayana Raju, Mr. D.
Narayana Rao, Mr. M.
Narayanan Chettiyar, Mr. Al. Ar.
Narayanan Nambudripad, Rao Bahadur O. M.
Ob: Keddi, Mr. C.
Pandurang Rao, Mr. V.
Parasurama Rao Pantulu, Mr. A.
Parthasarathi Ayyangar, Mr. C. R.
Patro, Kt., Rao Bahadur Sir A. P.
Premayya, Mr. G. B.
Raja of Panagal, K.C.I.E.
Raja of Ramnad.
Rajan, Mr. P. T.
Ramaachandra Padayachi, Mr. K.
Ramaachandra Reddi, Mr. B.
Ramanath Goenka, Mr.
Ramasomayajulu, Mr. C.
Ramaswami Ayyar, Mr. U.
Sahajanandam, Mr. Swami A. S.
Saldanha, Mr. J. A.
Sami Venkatachalam Chetti, Mr.
Sarabha Reddi, Mr. K.
Satyamurti, Mr. S.
Shetty, Mr. A. B.
Siva Raj, Mr. N.
Siva Rao, Mr. P.
Sivasubrahmanya Ayyar, Mr. K. S.
Slater, C.I.E., Mr. S. H.
Smith, Mr. J. Mackenzie.
Soandara Pandia Nadar, Mr. W. P. A.
Srinivasa Ayyangar, Mr. R.
Srinivasa Ayyangar, Mr. T. G.
Srinivasan, Rao Sahib B.
Subrahmanya Moopanam, Mr. S.
Subrahmanya Pillai, Mr. Chavadi K.
Swami, Mr. K. V. K.
Syed Ibrahim Sahib Bahadur.
Tajudin Sahib Bahadur, Syed.
Tireman, C.I.E., Mr. H.
Tulasiram, Mr. L. K.

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PRESENT—cont.

Vanavudaiya Goundar, Mr. S. V.
Venkatapati Raju, Mr. P. C.
Venkatarama Ayyar, Mr. K. B.
Venkatarama Sastri, C.I.M., Mr. T. R.
Venkataramana Ayyangar, Mr. C. V.
Venkatarangam Nayudu, Mr. C.

Venkataratnam, Mr. B.
Venkiah, Mr. S.
Wood, Mr. C. E.
Zamindar of Gollapalli.
Zamindar of Mirzapuram.
Zamindar of Seithur.

I

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

[*Order made by the President of the Madras Legislative Council under Standing Order No. 15.*]

1. Starred questions to be put at a meeting of the Council with their answers shall be printed and placed on the Council table an hour before the President takes his seat.

The President will call out the name of each interpellator in the order in which the names are printed, specify the serial number of his question and make a sufficient pause to give him or any other member a reasonable opportunity of rising in his place and putting a supplementary question. Supplementary questions must be put immediately after the principal questions to which they relate.

2. If a member responsible for a starred question happens to be absent when it is called, it will be open either to him or to any other member to put supplementary questions thereon after the other starred questions for the day have been answered, provided question-time is not thereby exceeded.

3. Questions, not starred, will not be called in Council, but they will be printed with their answers and placed on the table of the House along with the list of starred questions. Oral supplementary questions will not be allowed in regard to unstarred questions.]

STARRED QUESTIONS

Civil Justice

Salary, etc., of the Official Assignee and Government Solicitor.

* 270 Q.—Mr. C. N. MUTHURANGA MUDALIYAR: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(a) the amount of salary, commission, fees or other remuneration that has been paid each month during the last three years to the Official Assignee of Madras and the Government Solicitor; and

(b) whether the Government propose to appoint one or more full-timed officers on definite salaries to discharge the duties of the Official Assignee and the Government Solicitor?

A.—(a) The Government have no information except in regard to that portion of the Government Solicitor's remuneration which is in the shape of a fixed monthly salary of Rs. 1,100 including the cost of his establishment.

(b) No.

Irrigation

Proposed irrigation scheme in Ongole taluk.

* 271 Q.—Mr. P. ANJANEYULU: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that in Ongole taluk in the Guntur district the Government intended to start a scheme of irrigation works;

(b) if so, at what stage it is; and

(c) when the Government hope to have it completed?

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A.—Besides the Bhavanasi tank project for the irrigation of over 800 acres, which is now in operation, the following schemes have been under consideration during recent years:—

- (i) The Pulikonda project for a reservoir across the Musi to irrigate an area of over 10,000 acres. This was estimated to cost over 19 lakhs in 1904. Gauge readings are being taken to ascertain the supply of water available.
- (ii) The Gundlakamma project for a reservoir across the river of the same name for the irrigation of 20,000 acres of wet cultivation at a cost of about 55 lakhs. It was abandoned as it was not financially feasible.
- (iii) The Cheruvukommapalem tank project for the restoration of a ruined tank to irrigate an area of over 900 acres at a cost of 1.06 lakhs. This was originally sanctioned as a famine-relief work in 1906 but was subsequently removed from the famine programme as it did not satisfy certain conditions in the Famine Code.

Mr. P. ANJANEYULU :—“ With reference to the answer to clause (iii) may I know from the hon. the Leader of the House whether the Government propose to undertake the work in the usual course of things ? ”

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—“ It can be taken up if at all as a protective work or under the rules of the Famine Insurance Fund which are very stringent.”

Mr. P. ANJANEYULU :—“ May I know whether the Government would be willing to encourage private enterprise if capital is forthcoming from the local people to undertake the work ? ”

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—“ The Government would be very glad to help any such scheme.”

Thoppayar Irrigation Project.

* 272 Q.—Rao Sahib S. ELLAPPA CHETTIYAR : Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether any scheme was under the consideration of Government regarding Thoppayar Irrigation Project in the Omalur taluk of the Salem district ;

(b) whether the Government have received any mahazar from the people of Omalur taluk urging the early introduction of the scheme ; and

(c) if so, at what stage the proposal is at present ?

A.—(a) Yes.

(b) Yes in 1925.

(c) An investigation of the scheme has been ordered and the Government are awaiting its results.

Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR :—“ As regards to the answer to clause (b) may I know whether in 1925, Mr. Hawkins, the then Irrigation Chief Engineer, reported on this scheme ? ”

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—“ He reported on the scheme.”

Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR :—“ May I know if he reported that it was feasible ? ”

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The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—" He only said that the scheme was worth a trial."

Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR :—" May I know in what stage the investigation is ? "

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—" So far as I know, it is practically completed."

Irrigation of portions of Coimbatore and Salem districts with the Mettur dam water.

* 273 Q.—Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR : Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state whether in view of the discussion on the adjournment motion regarding the question of irrigating portions of Salem and Coimbatore districts with the Mettur dam water, he has considered the desirability of appointing any person to examine the question ?

A.—No person has been appointed to examine the question.

Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR :—" May I ask, Sir, whether it is contemplated to appoint anybody ? "

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—" As was stated by me on two occasions on the floor of the House during this session, if, as I understand, hon. Members of this House are anxious to have the question of Coimbatore investigated more thoroughly—the question relating to Salem being much more difficult having advertence to the cost—the Government are willing to consider the question over again and if necessary, take expert advice on the matter."

Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR :—" As regards that point, may I ask whether the Government have received a number of memorials and resolutions that the people will pay any tax or cess ? "

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—" I am aware of that fact. The hon. Member is also aware that in spite of the hundreds of letters and petitions to that effect from proprietors of lands lower down in Tanjore it is asserted that the Government should not rely upon those petitions and assertions. It is stated further that the Government will be ill-advised in doing so."

Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR :—" May I know whether he gave the same weight to the assertions of some Members of Tanjore that they would pay the cess of Rs. 15, fixed by the Government ? "

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—" Yes ; certainly. That is the reason why I gave the answer I did."

Village Panchayat Courts

Execution of the decrees of village panchayats.

* 274 Q.—Mr. D. NARAYANA RAJU : With reference to the answer to question No. 93 answered on 27th January 1927, will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state —

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the fact that the village munsif as well as the president of panchayat is trying:

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to evade the unpleasant duty of executing the decrees of panchayat courts each in his turn, saying that under rule 53 it is not his duty but the duty of the other; and

(b) whether the Government will consider the advisability of modifying the present rule and of making the village munsif solely responsible to execute all orders?

A.—(a) & (b) Rule 53 referred to by the hon. Member applies both to panchayat courts constituted under section 9 and to village courts constituted under section 6 of the Village Courts Act. Under the note to this rule, the term 'village munsif' used in clause (b) of the rule does not include 'president of a panchayat court'. A village munsif is responsible for the execution of decrees passed by a village court, while the president of a panchayat court is responsible for the execution of decrees passed by a panchayat court. In either case, the agency to be employed is the village servant under section 11 of the Village Courts Act.

Mr. D. NARAYANA RAJU:—"With reference to the answer given, may I know if the Government considered the several disadvantages in making the President of the Panchayat Court responsible for the execution of decrees? Firstly, he is an elected honorary functionary and he is in a delicate situation to take coercive steps such as attachment, sale of properties. Secondly, he has no staff and no village office to keep the attached property in safe custody. Thirdly, in cases of obstruction in the execution of decrees, prosecutions have to be launched or against orders in execution, parties may file revision petitions in District Munsifs' Courts. Under such circumstances, it is unjust to ask the President of the Panchayat Court to attend courts for all the several hearings that may be found necessary."

The hon. the PRESIDENT:—"The hon. Member is giving a number of reasons."

Mr. D. NARAYANA RAJU:—"Have the Government considered all these disadvantages?"

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR:—"As is apparent from the last sentence of the answer, the actual agency to be employed in the execution of the decrees is the village servant and the President of the Panchayat Court. I know he is an elected functionary—functions through the village servant. I, however, realize some of the aspects pointed out by the hon. Member and shall have the question examined once again."

Constitution of Districts, Divisions and Taluks

Change of the name of 'Mettur' to 'Ramakrishnapuram'.

* 275 Q.—**Mr. C. N. MUTHURANGA MUDALIYAR:** Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that the villagers of 'Mettur', near Somangalam in the Sriperumbudur taluk in the Chingleput district, have petitioned the District Collector of Chingleput to change the name of their village as 'Ramakrishnapuram';

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(b) whether it is a fact that the villagers of 'Mettur' and the adjoining village of 'Somangalam', unanimously desire the change;

(c) whether it is a fact that the District Collector has declined to effect the desired change in the official records; and

(d) whether the Government will ask the District Collector to effect the desired change?

A.—(a) to (c) The Government are not aware of the proceedings referred to.

(d) The Government do not propose to move in the matter.

Famine

Famine conditions in Bellary district.

* 276 Q.—MR. P. SIVA RAO: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government are aware of the famine conditions prevailing in certain taluks of the Bellary district; and

(b) if so, what steps they propose to take or have already taken to combat them?

A.—(a) The Government have no reason to suppose that famine conditions are prevailing in any part of the Bellary district. The crops in many of the villages in the black-soil villages of the district have, however, failed completely or partially involving loss to the ryots and unemployment amongst the labourers.

(b) Collection of land revenue and loans instalments has been postponed and local board works have been started and will, it is hoped, be further extended to afford employment. Loans are also being granted under the Agriculturists Loans Act. Later, it may be necessary to start regular relief works under the Code.

MR. P. SIVA RAO:—"May I know what the Government mean by famine conditions? Does the answer to clause (a) specify when famine conditions prevail?"

The hon. Mr. N. E. MARJORIBANKS:—"Conditions to justify the starting of test works."

MR. P. SIVA RAO:—"The answer is vague. May I have more definite information?"

The hon. Mr. N. E. MARJORIBANKS:—"They are defined in the Famine Code."

MR. P. SIVA RAO:—"Is it not a fact that works have been started by the District Board and that they have been attracting a large number of employees in spite of the low wages given to them? Is this not one of the tests?"

The hon. Mr. N. E. MARJORIBANKS:—"No, Sir."

MR. P. SIVA RAO:—"Then what else, Sir?"

The hon. Mr. N. E. MARJORIBANKS:—"I must refer the hon. Member to the Famine Code."

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Mr. P. SIVA RAO :—" Will the hon. Member be pleased to repeat them for the information of the House ? "

Mr. G. HARISARVOTTAMA RAO :—" With reference to the last sentence of the answer (b), may I ask the hon. the Revenue Member to tell me if regular relief works can at any time be contemplated when there is not a prospect or even certainty that famine conditions prevail ? "

The hon. Mr. N. E. MARJORIBANKS :—" Certainly they can be contemplated."

Mr. G. HARISARVOTTAMA RAO :—" So, the hon. Member admits that famine conditions are existing."

The hon. Mr. N. E. MARJORIBANKS :—" No, Sir."

Mr. G. HARISARVOTTAMA RAO :—" The hon. Member declines to say that there are famine conditions."

The hon. Mr. N. E. MARJORIBANKS :—" Yes, Sir."

Land Revenue

Season report for the Cuddapah district.

* 277 Q.—Mr. G. HARISARVOTTAMA RAO : Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state what the parts of the Cuddapah district are in which prospects are described as not being encouraging in the season report for the week ending 1st January 1927 ?

A.—The parts referred to are—

- (1) the Talamanchipatnam firka and parts of the Mangapatnam firka in the Jammalamadugu taluk,
- (2) Badvel firka in the Badvel taluk,
- (3) the Pendlimarri firka and the Chintakommadinne firka in the Cuddapah taluk,
- (4) the Pulivendla taluk, and
- (5) the Proddatur taluk.

Mr. G. HARISARVOTTAMA RAO :—" May I ask the hon. Member if any arrangements to help the ryots have been made ? "

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" May I know how the question arises out of the answer given ? "

Mr. G. HARISARVOTTAMA RAO :—" I have asked whether prospects were bad in certain areas as indicated in the report. I am asking what arrangements are made in the areas specified."

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" The hon. Member wanted to know the areas where the prospects were bad and those areas are given in the answer. As this supplementary question put by him does not arise out of the answer given, I rule it out of order."

Resurvey of lands in Ernad and Walluvanad taluks.

* 278 Q.—Mr. K. MADHAVAN NAYAR : Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether the charges for resurveying the lands in the Ernad and portion of the Walluvanad taluks under Madras Act VIII of 1923 are being collected;

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(b) at what rate these charges are levied ;

(c) whether any difference is made between wet and dry lands or arable and waste lands in the matter of such levy ;

(d) whether the Government or the Collector of Malabar has received any memorials from the inhabitants of the said two taluks for the remission of the survey charges or other reliefs ;

(e) whether the Government or the Collector of Malabar has received copies of any resolutions passed at any public meeting held in the said area and to the same effect ; and

(f) whether, in view of the fact that the said two taluks are those that suffered seriously from the Rebellion of 1921, the floods of 1923 and 1924 and the drought of this year, the Government are prepared to grant any, and if so what, reliefs to the landowners of the said taluks ?

A.—(a) Yes. The charges represent the cost of labour employed and of the survey marks used in the survey as provided in the Act.

(b) & (c) The rules for the determination of the cost of labour employed and of the survey marks used in the survey are contained in paragraphs 1—4 of the rules under clause 2 (g) of section 26 of the Madras Survey and Boundaries Act published at page 2404 of Part I of the *Fort St. George Gazette*, dated 22nd December 1925, and at pages 527–528 of Part I of the *Fort St. George Gazette*, dated 16th March 1926.

(d) The Government have received memorials.

(e) The Government have received copies of the resolutions passed at a meeting.

(f) A concession has been granted by allowing the recovery of the charges to be made in two years in cases where the sum to be paid exceeds Rs. 100.

MR. K. MADHAVAN NAYAR :—“ Will the hon. Member be pleased to say whether the Government are prepared to grant any further concessions with reference to the answer to clause (f) ? ”

The hon. MR. N. E. MARJORIBANKS :—“ It will depend on the reasons put forth by them.”

MR. K. MADHAVAN NAYAR :—“ I understand that the memorialists have asked for either total remission or for the collection of the survey charges to be extended over a period of six or twelve years. Will the Government grant that concession ? That is the particular question I wish to ask.”

The hon. MR. N. E. MARJORIBANKS :—“ On the information before us, we have granted the concession mentioned in the answer. If there are further reasons for giving a further concession, I will consider the matter further.”

MR. K. MADHAVAN NAYAR :—“ May I ask whether these memorials were received after the concession mentioned in the answer was granted ? ”

The hon. MR. N. E. MARJORIBANKS :—“ It is not in my recollection.”

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Transfer of Kontivada zamindari in West Godavari district from schedule A to schedule B of the Irrigation Cess Act.

* 279 Q.—Mr. D. NARAYANA RAJU: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether there is any proposal for the transfer of Kontivada zamindari in West Godavari district from schedule A to schedule B of the Irrigation Cess Act;

(b) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the fact that the rents now paid by the tenants to the zamindar include water-cess also; and

(c) if the answer to (a) be in the affirmative, whether the Government will give the tenants opportunity to make their representations in the matter?

A.—(a) & (c) Kontivada zamin finds a place both in schedule A and schedule B. The cess payable on lands irrigated for the first crop is leviable from the landholder and the charge for second crop is leviable from the ryot.

(b) No.

Mr. D. NARAYANA RAJU:—“ May I take it from the answer that the Government do not propose to make any change in this respect ? ”

The hon. Mr. N. E. MARJORIBANKS:—“ Not, unless they are aware of any reasons why they should ”

Restoration of du-fasli water-tax for plantain trees on bunds of wet lands.

* 280 Q.—Mr. D. NARAYANA RAJU: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that the Jamabandi officers in West Godavari district are restoring the policy of charging du-fasli water-tax for plantain trees raised on the bunds of consolidated wet lands;

(b) whether it is a fact that former Jamabandi officers such as A. Y. G. Campbell, Esq., P. L. Moore, Esq., etc., passed orders that no such charge should be made; and

(c) if the answers to (a) and (b) be in the affirmative, what are the reasons therefor?

A.—The Government are not aware that the facts are as stated.

Mr. D. NARAYANA RAJU:—“ May I know, Sir, if the hon. Member will call for a report ? ”

The hon. Mr. N. E. MARJORIBANKS:—“ Yes.”

Public Service

Committee to enquire into the grievances of non-gazetted officers.

* 281 Q.—Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government have received a memorial from the non-gazetted Government servants communicating a resolution unanimously

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passed at their conference held at Kurnool on 30th December 1926, requesting that a committee may be appointed to enquire into and report on their grievances; and

(b) if so, what orders, if any, have been passed by the Government?

A.—(a) Yes.

(b) The Government declined to accede to the request.

Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR :—“ May I know, Sir, whether the Government had, at the time of passing the order, in view the resolution of this Council also as regards this matter ? ”

The hon. Mr. N. E. MARJORIBANKS :—“ Which resolution ? ”

Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR :—“ Requesting the Government that a committee may be appointed to enquire into the grievances of the non-gazetted services ? ”

The hon. Mr. N. E. MARJORIBANKS :—“ Yes, Sir ; they had.”

Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR :—“ Apart from appointing any committee, may I know whether the Government propose to take any action with regard to the pay and other grievances of those people ? ”

The hon. Mr. N. E. MARJORIBANKS :—“ What the Government stated was if there were any particular grievances, they would be considered. But the general grievance seems to be one of the inadequacy of the scale of pay given.”

Mr. S. SATYAMURTI :—“ May I know the reasons why the Government declined to appoint a committee to go into their grievances ? ”

The hon. Mr. N. E. MARJORIBANKS :—“ Because, the only grievance that was set forth was that they wanted more pay and the Government did not accept it. So there was no object in appointing a committee.”

Mr. S. SATYAMURTI :—“ Having regard to the fact that it is easy to get Parliamentary Royal Commissions . . . ? ”

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—“ In similar cases I have ruled prefatory remarks to be out of order.”

Mr. S. SATYAMURTI :—“ I must put my question in some intelligible form ? ”

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—“ I have to decide whether such prefatory remarks are necessary or not.”

Mr. S. SATYAMURTI :—“ I have not put the question yet ? ”

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—“ What the hon. Member has stated is not in consonance with the rules, as it is clearly an argument.”

Village Establishments

Appointment of the village munsif of Siruvallore village, Saidapet taluk.

* 282 Q.—Mr. P. BHAKTAVATSULU NAYUDU : Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether the appointment of the village munsif of Siruvallore village, Saidapet taluk, has been conferred on Mr. Parthasarathi Reddiyar in addition to his appointment as village munsif of Erukanjeri ;

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(b) whether he was not already on leave in respect of the latter appointment;

(c) if so, what necessitated the Government to confer the office of village munsif of Siruvallore also on him while on leave;

(d) whether he is doing the duties of this new appointment;

(e) if not, on what grounds he has taken leave of this appointment also and for what period;

(f) whether for that appointment another has been chosen by the Revenue Department or by the village munsif himself;

(g) if the latter, whether that substitute satisfies all the conditions requisite for that post and whether the Government were convinced of his fitness for the post; and

(h) whether the Government are aware that the acting munsif of Siruvallore is neither a native nor a permanent resident of this place nor owns any house or landed property therein?

A.—The Government have no knowledge of any of the matters referred to in the questions. Appointments of village munsifs are made by the Revenue Divisional Officers and any person aggrieved by any particular appointment would do well to represent his objections to the Revenue Divisional Officer or to the Collector of the district.

Mr. P. BHAKTAVATSULU NAYUDU :—"It is stated that the Government have no knowledge of the matters referred to. Will the Government be pleased to get a knowledge of them as there are serious irregularities going on in that connexion?"

The hon. Mr. N. E. MARJORIBANKS :—"This is a matter regarding the appointment of village munsifs which are made by the Revenue Divisional Officers. The Government do not propose to interfere in the matter."

Mr. P. BHAKTAVATSULU NAYUDU :—"The Government presumes or presupposes that this is a grievance of some aggrieved party. It is in the interests of the general tax-payer that this question has been put. Will the Government now at least try to get a knowledge of the irregularities and rectify them before it is too late?"

The hon. Mr. N. E. MARJORIBANKS :—"No Sir. The matter is of such a nature that the subordinate authorities can deal with it and the Government see no reason to interfere in the matter."

Forests

Output of sandalwood in this Presidency.

* 283 Q.—Mr. C. N. MUTHURANGA MUDALIYAR: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(a) what is the total output of sandalwood per annum in the last three years in the British territory in the Madras Presidency;

(b) to what places the sandalwood is exported;

(c) whether Government themselves directly export sandalwood from this Presidency;

(d) what is the net income from the sale of sandalwood in the last three years;

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(e) whether it is a fact that the sandalwood forests of Salem, Coimbatore and Coorg are being overrun with lantana and that the spike disease is invading them;

(f) whether it is a fact that the spiked trees are uprooted, with the result that the possibilities of future continued supply of sandalwood are considerably jeopardised;

(g) what steps Government have taken to combat the spike disease; and

(h) whether measures are being taken for the systematic replantation of sandalwood trees in forest areas, and for the increase of the area of sandalwood plantation?

A.—(a) The total output of sandalwood for the past three official years is as follows :—

							TONS.
1923-24	...	...	...	...	...	...	710
1924-25	...	...	...	...	...	...	703
1925-26	...	...	...	...	...	...	641

(b) The Government have no information.

(c) Government do not directly export sandalwood. The sandalwood is sold in public auction at the Government depots at Tirupattur, Sathyamangalam and Vellore.

(d) The income from the sale of sandalwood for the last three official years is as follows :—

							RS.
1923-24	...	...	...	...	...	...	7,86,113
1924-25	...	...	...	...	...	...	8,88,085
1925-26	...	...	...	...	...	...	7,52,804

(e) The Government understand that spike disease is spreading rapidly in the sandalwood districts of this Presidency.

(f) The spiked trees are uprooted and sold. It cannot be said that this jeopardises future supplies of sandalwood. The reverse is the case. If the spiked trees are allowed to remain, the entire crop will soon become affected.

(g) The Government are in communication with the Mysore Darbar and the Coorg Administration with reference to the appointment of a special staff to investigate and combat spike disease.

(h) The Forest department is taking action to raise the tree in suitable areas where spike disease does not exist.

MR. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR :—“As regards the answer to clause (b), are not the Government aware of the fact that most of the sandalwood is exported to Bombay?”

The hon. Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—“I want notice, Sir.”

MR. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR :—“May I ask whether it is not a fact that licences are given for taking away sandalwood?”

The hon. Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—“Yes, Sir.”

MR. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR :—“Are not licences given to people from Bombay chiefly?”

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The hon. Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—"Yes, Sir."

Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR:—"May I know if sandalwood is exported to France and other European countries?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur.—
"I understand that it is exported to Europe and America."

Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR.—"As regards the answer to clause (a), Sir, may I know whether the Government have any idea of starting sandalwood oil manufacture as in Mysore?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—"I should like to have notice of this question, Sir."

Forest Panchayats

Forest panchayats in Kurnool district.

* 284 Q.—Mr. G. HARISARVOTTAMA RAO: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(a) when the forest panchayat staff was organized in the Kurnool district;

(b) how many forest panchayats have been formed by the said staff since such organization;

(c) whether it has been brought to the notice of the Government that village people are unwilling to form such panchayats because:

(i) forests generally made over to such panchayats are worthless as forest property;

(ii) panchayats have no power to excuse grazing fees;

(iii) panchayats charge and have to charge a grazing fee at least equal to the fee charged by the Forest department for a much smaller and a much less provided area than what cattle would be entitled to use on a pucca forest permit;

(iv) the panchayats' permits are inoperative beyond their area and the ryot has to pay twice over forest fees for his cattle which may have no sufficient provision within the bounds of the panchayat forest; and

(d) if so, what action the Government propose to take to remedy the situation?

A.—(a) A special Deputy Tahsildar took charge of the work of organizing forest panchayats in the Kurnool district in August 1926.

(b) Twenty panchayats have been formed.

(c) & (d) The answer to (c) is in the negative.

Mr. G. HARISARVOTTAMA RAO:—"May I know, Sir, from the hon. the Home Member how many forest panchayats were there before the special Deputy Tahsildar took charge of the work?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—"I am afraid, Sir, it is not possible for me to answer the question off-hand. If, however, the hon. Member will give notice of it, I shall give the answer."

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Mr. G. HARISARVOTTAMA RAO :—" May I know, Sir, with reference to the answers to clauses (c) and (d), whether forest panchayats are not being formed by almost coercive processes ? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—" No, Sir, I do not think so."

Mr. G. HARISARVOTTAMA RAO :—" May I ask the hon. the Home Member, Sir, whether in G.O. No. 499 the following sentence does not appear ?—

'The villagers adjoining the said reserves will once for all be warned by publication in the village that unless panchayats are formed by the end of the current fashi year, the rates will be enhanced from the 1st July 1924'.

"These are grazing fees in the reserves adjoining the villages. Does it or does it not amount to a coercive process to tell the villagers that unless they formed panchayats, they would be forced to pay higher fees for grazing, etc. ? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—" No, Sir, I do not think it is a coercive process at all."

Mr. G. HARISARVOTTAMA RAO :—" May I know, Sir, if the hon. the Home Member does deny it, I cannot really understand the meaning of the answer to (c) and (d) that 'the answer is in the negative'. I want to ask whether it has been brought to the notice of Government that the village people are unwilling to form forest panchayats because of what I have stated. Is it true, Sir, that the panchayats formed for forests are generally clubbed together under class V reserves ? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—" They have now been reclassified. They all come now under class III."

Mr. G. HARISARVOTTAMA RAO :—" May I know, Sir, as the answer is in the negative, whether no representation of whatever kind was made to the Government either through the official channel or through the non-official channels ? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—" As far as I am aware, Sir, the Government have no information."

Jails

Alleged solitary confinement of one Kesavan Nayar.

* 285 Q.—Mr. K. MADHAVAN NAYAR : Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether there is a prisoner, by name Kesavan Nayar, convicted for offences in connexion with the Malabar rebellion, now confined in the Trichinopoly Central Jail ;

(b) whether as a protest against ill-treatment at the hands of the Jail authorities, he had recourse to hunger-strike in the latter part of 1926 ;

(c) how long he continued to be on hunger-strike ;

(d) whether the said Kesavan Nayar made a complaint of his grievances to the Inspector-General of Prisons, Madras, on his last official visit to the Trichinopoly Jail ;

(e) whether after the complaint, Kesavan Nayar has been confined in a solitary cell for the last three months ;

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(f) whether such solitary confinement for more than one month is allowed under the Jail Code and if not, under what authority the Superintendent keeps him in such solitary confinement; and

(g) whether under the circumstances, the Government will be pleased to enquire into the matter and give the prisoner relief?

A.—(a) Yes:

(b) & (c) There was no ill-treatment of any kind. He went on hunger-strike on two occasions for one day each, first on 21st July 1926 when reprimanded for disobeying orders and for making a statement that was found to be untrue and secondly on 5th October 1926 when his request to have his food cooked and served to him by a Mappilla was refused.

(d) Yes. The Inspector-General enquired into the complaint and found that there was no foundation for it.

(e) No.

(f) & (g) The questions do not arise.

Mr. P. ANJANEYULU :—" Sir, as regards the answer to clauses (b) and (c), may I know on the first occasion, i.e., on the 21st July 1926, what was the order that he disobeyed and what was the sort of reprimand that was administered to him? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—" When the prisoner was in quarantining he was asked to stand with others during the usual weekly inspection by the medical officer and the Superintendent, but he refused to do so. When asked why he refused he stated that he had no suit of clothes; but on examination it was found that he had them. Under these circumstances, he was scolded for uttering a falsehood."

Mr. T. ADINARAYANA CHETTIYAR :—" In answer to clause (e), as to whether after the complaint he had been confined in a solitary cell for the last three months, the reply is 'no.' Does it apply to his having been confined in a solitary cell or does it apply to the three months' period? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—" For both, Sir."

Mr. L. K. TULASIRAM :—" Does the Government think that it is a civilized form of punishment to confine a man solitarily for more than one month? "

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" That was already denied. With reference to what clause does the supplemental question arise? "

Mr. L. K. TULASIRAM :—" With reference to clause (f), Sir."

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" That question does not arise. In answer to clause (e), the reply is 'no,' i.e., that there was no solitary confinement and that it was not for a period of three months."

Mr. L. K. TULASIRAM :—" Does the hon. Member deny that there was any solitary confinement? "

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The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" That has already been answered."

Mr P. ANJANEYULU —" With reference to the answer to clause (d) that the Inspector-General enquired into the complaint and found that there was no foundation for it, may I know what was the complaint made by the prisoner ? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—" When the Inspector-General visited the jail, he enquired into the whole matter and found that there was nothing."

Mr. G. HARISARVOTAMA RAO :—" What exactly was the complaint of the prisoner, Sir ? It is not a question of his going on hunger-strike or the Inspector-General going to visit the jail and his giving the Government information. What was the exact reason for the prisoner saying that he had to go on a hunger-strike ? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—" The prisoner brought to the notice of the Inspector-General that he was badly treated. When the Inspector-General went into the whole question, he saw that there was nothing."

Mr. P. ANJANEYULU .—" What I wish to understand from the hon. the Home Member is this, Sir the question is whether the said Kesavan Nayar went on hunger-strike and what was the complaint that he made for going on hunger-strike ? The answer is that he went on hunger-strike. Was that the only complaint ? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—" Yes, Sir."

Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR .—" The answer is that the Inspector-General enquired into the complaint and found that there was no foundation for it. May we not know, Sir, whether at the time of the Inspector-General's enquiry this Kesavan Nayar did not give any other grievances at all ? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—" The grievances are mentioned in the answer. He said that he was reprimanded on one occasion and that on another occasion his request to have his food cooked by a Mappilla was refused."

Mr. K. MADHAVAN NAYAR :—" What is the complaint that the prisoner made ? That question has not yet been answered and we have not yet known that."

The hon. Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—" I have already answered that question, Sir."

Mr. K. V. R SWAMI :—" May I know if he is allowed to cook his own food ? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—" Food is cooked for him by others."

Mr. P. ANJANEYULU :—" With due respect to the hon. the Home Member, may I point out that there are two answers given to one question ? "

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" With reference to what clause is the hon. Member putting his question ? "

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Mr. P. ANJANEYULU :—“ We want to know which answer we have to accept. The question was what was the complaint, and the answer was that he had to go on hunger-strike, but that there was no foundation for it. In answer to Mr. Madhavan Nayar the answer is given now that the prisoner wanted to have his food cooked by a Mappilla and so he was reprimanded. I should like to know, Sir, which answer I should accept? ”

The hon. Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—“ Both the answers, Sir. The answer is given in clauses (c) and (d). The complaint was that he was once reprimanded for uttering falsehood and that on the second occasion his request to have his food cooked by a Mappilla was refused.”

Mr. T. ADINARAYANA CHETTIYAR :—“ Was it because it was bad for his taste or on account of any religious scruple? ”

The hon. Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—“ Government have no information on the point.”

Mr. T. ADINARAYANA CHETTIYAR :—“ If it was a question of religious scruple that certain meat cooked by people other than Muhammadans should not be offered, or something like that, will the Government consider the matter? ”

The hon. Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—“ Kesavan Nayar is a non-Brahman Hindu and according to the Jail Manual, he has his food cooked by a non-Brahman Hindu and he has no right to have his food cooked by a Mappilla.”

Mr. K. MADHAVAN NAYAR :—“ Did the prisoner make a specific complaint to the Superintendent of the Jail that he was made to walk naked from the quarantine to the hospital or that he was ill-treated by the Superintendent of the Trichinopoly Jail? ”

The hon. Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—“ No such complaint was made.”

Mr. G. HARISARVOTTAMA RAO :—“ It is stated that the Inspector-General enquired into the complaint and found that there was no foundation for it. If the Inspector-General enquired into the matter, were there any notes taken of the enquiry, or did the Inspector-General make any orders in writing or did he make any report in writing? ”

The hon. Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—“ Yes, Sir, the Inspector-General did send a report in writing.”

Mr. G. HARISARVOTTAMA RAO :—“ And he had notes of the enquiry? ”

The hon. Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—“ I suppose he must have.”

Mr. G. HARISARVOTTAMA RAO :—“ Then, if he made any notes, it must be very easy for us to find out what the prisoner exactly said. Will the hon. Member kindly place it on the table or publish the notes for our information? ”

The hon. Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—“ I am sorry I am unable to publish the notes; but I can say this much that the Inspector-General visited the jail and it was brought to his notice

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that a certain prisoner went on a hunger-strike. He enquired into the matter and came to the conclusion that there was no foundation for the complaint of the prisoner."

Mr. G. HARISARVOTTAMA RAO :—" May I understand whether it was a secret enquiry, Sir ? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—" It was not a secret enquiry, but it was a departmental enquiry."

Education

Grants for Indian boarding houses and orphanages.

* 286 Q.—Mr. J. A. SALDANHA : Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) what steps have been taken to provide adequate grant for Indian boarding houses, including orphanages ; and

(b) the number of such houses and the approximate number of inmates that are provided for ?

A.—(a) The hon. Member is referred to the answer to question No. 208.

(b) Boarding grants for 1926-27 have not yet been distributed. In 1925-26, grants were awarded to 93 orphanages and boarding houses for destitute children, with 4,228 orphans and non-orphan destitutes within the prescribed age-limit.

Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—" With reference to clause (a), may I know whether the rate of Rs. 10 mentioned is per mensem or per year ? "

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" Where is the rate given ? "

Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—" It is given in the previous answer to which I am referred now. I want to make sure whether the rate is for a year or a month. "

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" The previous answer does not refer to Rupees 10. "

Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—" The previous supplementary answer refers to it. One cannot believe that Rs. 10 is given for a year. "

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" A supplementary question cannot arise out of a supplementary answer given on a previous occasion. "

The RAJA OF RAMNAD :—" Sir, in answer to clause (b) it is stated that 96 orphanages and boarding houses received grants in 1925-26. May I know from the hon. Member whether these boarding houses were exclusively for orphans or whether others were also admitted ? "

The hon. Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN :—" I believe there were other boarders also. I do not know that, but I believe so. "

Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—" May I enquire, Sir, whether Rs. 10 a year is considered an adequate rate ? "

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" I have already said that no supplemental question can be based on another supplemental question that was answered on a previous occasion. "

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Mr. S. SATYAMURTI :—“ Sir, with reference to clause (b) of this question, may I ask whether the orphanages are intended for non-Indians and whether any grant was made to non-Hindu orphanages ? ”

The hon. Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN :—“ These are all for Indian orphanages. I have nothing to do with European education. ”

Mr. S. SATYAMURTI :—“ I want to know, Sir, whether any of these orphanages are intended for Hindu orphans and whether the 4,228 orphans and non-orphan destitutes who were helped included any number of Hindu orphans, and if so, what is that number ? ”

The hon. Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN :—“ I cannot give the exact number, but there were Hindu orphans among the people who were helped. ”

The RAJA OF RAMNAD :—“ I want to know whether there is any policy adopted in these orphanages, say that the majority of the children should be at least orphans ? ”

The hon. Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN :—“ I should like to have some time for examining the question before I give an answer. ”

Mr. ABDUL HAMID KHAN :—“ May I know on what principle these grants are given to the orphanages ? ”

The hon. Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN :—“ Originally these grants were given only to Anglo-Indian children. There was a complaint made at budget time once on this matter, and so the Government decided to give grants to Indian children also. ”

Mr. ABDUL HAMID KHAN :—“ May I know if all the orphanages in the province get the grant or only a limited number of them ? ”

The hon. Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN :—“ I am afraid I cannot answer the question off-hand. ”

Mr. G. HARISARVOTTAMA RAO :—“ May I know what approximate proportion these orphans would be, I mean the proportion between Anglo-Indians and others ? ”

The hon. Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN :—“ I have already explained that I have nothing to do with Anglo-Indian orphanages. ”

Mr. G. HARISARVOTTAMA RAO :—“ Have the Government made any enquiries as to the number of orphans in the province and the number of orphanages ? ”

The hon. Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN :—“ I do not think any such enquiry has been made. ”

Municipal Councils

Government Order cancelling the old practice of marking votes of illiterate voters in the presence of candidates.

* 287 Q.—Mr. M. NARAYANA RAO : Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government are aware of the discontent caused by G.O. Mis. No. 3770, L. & M., published in the *Fort St. George Gazette*, dated 7th September 1926, which cancelled the old practice of marking the votes of illiterate voters in the presence of the candidates or their agents in the municipal elections ;

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(b) whether this change gave rise to many complaints in the recent municipal elections held in Ellore and led to civil and criminal litigation; and

(c) whether Government will consider the advisability of early cancellation of the above Government Order and a reversion to the old practice in the matter?

A.—(a) The Government have no reason to suppose that the change has caused general discontent.

(b) Representations against the change were received from three candidates at the elections held recently in the Ellore municipality and from certain voters of the tenth ward. The Government are not aware of any litigation.

(c) Yes.

Mr. D. NARAYANARAJU :—"In answer to clause (c) it is stated that Government will consider the advisability of early cancellation of the order. May I know if the Government have come to any decision?"

The hon. Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN :—"The Government have not yet come to a decision."

Mr. P. SIVA RAO :—"May I know whether in issuing the Government Order the Government were issuing a new rule or were only interpreting the old rule?"

The hon. Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN :—"It is really a new interpretation of an old rule."

Mr. P. SIVA RAO :—"May I know whether the hon. Minister is aware of the practice that prevails in the case of the Legislative Council elections and the Legislative Assembly elections?"

The hon. Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN :—"Yes, Sir, I am aware of that practice."

Mr. P. SIVA RAO :—"Is he aware, Sir, that in the case of the Legislative Council elections and the Legislative Assembly elections illiterate voters have to give out their votes in the presence of the candidates or their agents?"

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—"How does the question arise out of the answer given?"

Mr. P. SIVA RAO :—"It arises like this. It would enable the Government to say whether they would consider the advisability of early cancellation of the above Government Order?"

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—"That has nothing to do with the rules regarding the elections to the Legislative Councils."

Mr. P. SIVA RAO :—"I am suggesting,—and my next question will show it,—that the rules are absolutely identical and what prevails in the case of one ought to prevail in the case of the other also. I am only suggesting to the Government to cancel that Government Order and to conform themselves to the rules applying to the Legislative Council and the Legislative Assembly elections."

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—"The question does not arise."

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Agriculture

Maintenance of breeding bulls in Mangalore.

* 288 Q.—Mr. A. B. SHETTY : Will the hon. the Minister for Development be pleased to state—

(a) what is the total amount of grant distributed by Government in South Kanara district for encouraging the maintenance of breeding bulls by private persons, and to how many persons such grants have been made during the past year ;

(b) whether Government have prescribed any, and, if so, what conditions for making such grants ; and, if not, whether it is left to the discretion of the Director of Agriculture to prescribe such conditions before making the grants ;

(c) what are the conditions prescribed by the Director of Agriculture for making the grant to the District Advancement Association for breeding bulls for the year 1926-27 ;

(d) whether it is a fact that the District Advancement Association have not applied for the grant as it would be impracticable to work out the conditions prescribed by the Director of Agriculture ;

(e) whether it is a fact that the Deputy Director of Agriculture, Livestock, claimed back as belonging to Government a bull exchanged by the Advancement Association for one from the Hosur Government Farm, when the Association bull died many days after the exchange ;

(f) whether it is a fact that the District Advancement Association had applied for an increase in the grant for their breeding bulls, and that it was refused ;

(g) whether it is a fact that on account of these obstacles set in the path of the Association it has ceased to maintain any bulls ; and

(h) whether the Government propose to maintain any breeding bulls in Mangalore or elsewhere in the district for improving the breed of the cattle there ?

A.—(a) A sum of Rs. 500 was distributed during the year 1925-26 to the District Advancement Association and the Idaya Govardhana Sangham and to a private individual.

(b) A grant of Rs. 100 a year may be made to an individual or society in consideration of the purchase and maintenance at his or its cost of an approved breeding bull subject to the following conditions :—

- (i) that the bull should be properly housed and maintained in good condition ;
- (ii) that the register of services by the bull should be kept showing also results—40 to 50 services being aimed at in a year ;
- (iii) that the herd of cows served by the bull should be segregated from the rest of the village cattle or else all other male stock of the locality should be castrated ;
- (iv) that the cows served should ordinarily be limited to those owned either by the members of a society or by a particular breeder or group of breeders ;

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- (v) that in the case of a society it may fix its own scale of fees for service whereas in the case of an individual the fee may be limited to As. 4 for each service for the present.

In 1923 the Director of Agriculture was authorized to increase at his discretion the annual premia payable in each case up to Rs. 150.

It is not left to the discretion of the Director of Agriculture to prescribe any additional conditions.

- (c) No special conditions were prescribed other than those mentioned above.
- (d) The Government have no information.
- (e) The bull "Guindy Conqueror" sent by the District Advancement Association, Mangalore, arrived at Hosur on the 2nd April 1926 and went off his feed the very next day when he was sent to the Veterinary Hospital on the Farm, where he was under observation and treatment. It was discovered that heavy ropes had eaten into the flesh below the horns and a detailed report by the Veterinary Assistant Surgeon on the condition of the bull was forwarded to the Association by the Deputy Director of Agriculture, Livestock, on the 10th April. The bull was under treatment from the 4th April to the 20th April on which date it died of 'tetanus' in spite of the injection of 'anti-tetanus serum'.

The death was due to the old wounds that had been caused by careless handling and indiscriminate roping prior to transport from Mangalore and to the new wound received on the journey. The association was responsible for the death of the bull and the Director of Agriculture considered that it should pay for the bull taken in exchange or return it to the department.

- (f) Yes.
- (g) It is a fact that the association has ceased to maintain any bulls but the Government are not aware of any obstacles placed in its way.
- (h) Breeding bulls have been and will continue to be placed at several centres in the South Kanara district.

MR. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR :—"As regards (b) may I know from Government as to how many associations and individuals have received grants under this particular rule?"

The hon. Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—"I am not able to answer it now."

MR. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR :—"As regards clause (h) I want to know the number of breeding bulls in the last year and the number of bulls in this year and how many of them have been given to the South Kanara district?"

The hon. Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—"Notice."

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Medical Administration

Rural dispensaries in the Presidency.

* 289 Q.—**Mr. M. A. MANICKAVELU NAYAGAR:** Will the hon. the Minister for Public Health be pleased to state—

- (a) the number of rural dispensaries now in existence ;
- (b) how many of these have a midwife attached to them ;
- (c) how they are equipped ; and
- (d) how many more rural dispensaries will be opened next year ?

A.—(a) Two hundred and forty-one rural dispensaries have so far been opened.

(b) & (c) The Government have no information. The duty of equipping these dispensaries with medical necessities and surgical instruments devolves upon the taluk boards.

(d) Provision has been made in the budget for 1927–28 for the payment of subsidies in respect of 387 rural dispensaries at the rate of three dispensaries for each taluk board area. It is not possible at present to state how many dispensaries will be actually opened next year as it is for the taluk boards concerned to take the initiative in the matter.

Mr. M. A. MANICKAVELU NAYAGAR.—“ With reference to the answer to clause (d), will the hon. the Minister for Public Health kindly invite the attention of all the taluk boards to consider the necessity of rural hospitals in view of the scarcity of dispensaries in the rural parts ? ”

The hon. Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—“ It is for them to take the initiative.”

Mr. B. RAMACHANDRA REDDI:—“ In answer (a) it is stated that 241 dispensaries have been so far opened and in answer (d) it is stated that provision has been made for 387 rural dispensaries. That shows that 146 new dispensaries have been provided for. May I request the hon. Member to refer me to the page in which provision has been made in the Budget for 1927–28.”

The hon. Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—“ I will have to look into the matter.”

The RAJA OF BAMNAD:—“ The taluk boards have not been intimated that they can open free dispensaries ; so far as I am aware there has been no such intimation.”

The hon. Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—“ We cannot tell them until the Budget is passed.”

The ZAMINDAR OF GOLLAPALLI:—“ How many of them are to be opened in the districts of East Godavari and West Godavari and in the Kistna districts ? ”

The hon. Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—“ I would like to have notice of it.”

Mr. P. C. VENKATAPATI RAJU:—“ Can you say whether there are already free dispensaries working in many of the taluk board areas ? ”

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The hon. Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR :—" I cannot answer that."

Mr. B. VENKATARATNAM (in Telugu) :—" Re. provision for midwives."

The hon. Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR :—" Provision has already been made by the taluk boards."

Mr. R. SRINIVASA AYYANGAR :—" As the question time has not been exceeded, may I put a supplementary question in respect of question 270. At the time when that question was called the hon. Member who put that question was not in his place, and you passed to the next question."

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" The fact was not brought to my notice then. The Council will now proceed to the next order of the day."

UNSTARRED QUESTIONS

Civil Justice

Alleged memorial from the process-servers of the Nilgiris.

290 Q.—Mr. BASHEER AHMAD SAYEED: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether he has received any memorial from the process-servers of the Nilgiris district praying for enhancement of their present scale of pay; and

(b) if so, whether any, and what, steps have so far been taken to redress the grievance?

A.—(a) & (b) A copy of a memorial addressed to the Government through the Hon'ble the Judges of the High Court was received direct by the Government in December last. No memorial has yet been received through the High Court. Under section 20 of the Court Fees Act, 1870, rules for the remuneration of peons and other persons employed in the service or execution of processes are made by the High Court.

Irrigation

Irrigation projects in Anantapur district.

291 Q.—Mr. C. B. NARAYANA REDDI: Will the hon. the Law Member and the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) what are the unabandoned irrigation projects in the Anantapur district that have so far been investigated;

(b) what is the estimated cost and return under each of them;

(c) what are the projects that have been finished during these six years of famine;

(d) what are the irrigation projects that are being investigated now;

(e) what are the irrigation projects the investigations of which are yet to be undertaken;

(f) what are the irrigation projects that have been taken up and abandoned and if there are any whether the Government will state the reasons for such abandonment;

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(g) whether, in view of the fact that Anantapur district is a famine area, the Government will state whether they are going to take on hand the working of the projects ;

(h) whether the Government intend taking any other measures to relieve famine in Anantapur district ; and

(i) whether the Government have begun any test works to relieve famine in Ceded districts ?

A.—(a) & (b) No such projects were investigated.

(c) No projects were carried out during the last six years.

(d) Kannapalli project is the only one under investigation.

(e) Penner-Kumudavathi reservoir project ;

Pillapalli project ;

Forming a new tank across the Thalapula vanka; and Nidimamidi reservoir project.

(f) Tungabhadra project ;

Upper Penner reservoir project ;

Somayajulapalli tank ;

Restoration of the Paliem tank ; and

Ithodu project.

The reasons for abandoning the above projects are given in the statement that was laid on the table in reply to question No 214 asked at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on the 18th February 1921.

(g) The Government propose to investigate the Tungabhadra project as modified by the Ceded Districts Irrigation Committee and an appropriation of Rs. 25,000 has been entered in the Budget Estimate for 1927-28.

(h) The Government have no reason to suppose that famine conditions prevail at present in the district. The taluks which are adversely affected by the season are Gooty and Tadpatri.

(i) The Government do not propose to start at present relief works in accordance with the provisions of the Famine Code, but steps have been taken in those areas of the Ceded districts in which it has been found necessary to do so, to expand ordinary works programme, to make grants to local boards for the execution of village and other works and to grant loans freely under the Loans Acts.

Reconstruction of the sluice at Thorrigedda.

292 Q.—Mr. K. V. R. SWAMI: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(a) when the sluice at Thorrigedda, Rajahmundry taluk, East Godavari, was first constructed and at what cost ;

(b) whether that sluice was washed down by the Godavari floods and when ;

(c) whether the above sluice was constructed a second time ; at what cost and when ;

(d) whether this also was washed down a second time ; and if so, when ;

(e) what is the reason assigned for the sluice having been washed down twice ;

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(f) whether the lands of any of the neighbouring villages are submerged by the Godavari floods;

(g) if so, of how many villages;

(h) what is the extent of lands thus submerged;

(i) why this sluice was not reconstructed;

(j) whether the inhabitants of the affected villages offered to contribute any portion of the cost of construction and maintenance; and

(k) if so, how much?

A.—(a) In 1872 at a cost of Rs. 12,000.

(b) Yes, in 1878.

(c) Yes, in 1882 at a cost of Rs. 26,380.

(d) Yes, in 1886.

(e) No specific reason is traceable, but it was apparently due to the banks not being high enough or strong enough to withstand either the floods down the Torrigedda stream and held up by the sluice or the floods of the Godavari.

(f) Yes.

(g) & (h) The Government have no information.

(i) Because of the prohibitive cost and of the fact that the relief afforded would be only partial.

(j) & (k) The Government understand from the hon. the Minister for Development who recently visited the locality and received a deputation of the people interested that the ryots are prepared to meet more than half the cost of the restoration of the out-fall sluice and are willing to tax themselves to the extent of '2 annas in the rupee' towards the recurring charges of maintenance.

Madras Irrigation Bill.

293 Q.—MR. K. V. R. SWAMI: Will the hon. the Law Member and the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state when and why the Government resolved that the Madras Irrigation Bill which was passed by the last Council should be dropped?

A.—The attention of the hon. Member is drawn to question No. 90 answered at the Legislative Council on 27th January 1927, from which he will see that the Irrigation Bill which was before the last Council lapsed with the dissolution of the Council.

Police

'Sports Clubs' in Madras City.

294 Q.—MR. A. PARASURAMA RAO: Will the hon. the Law Member and the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government are aware that a number of 'Sports Clubs' are being run in this city for betting in connexion with horse races in Bombay, Calcutta and other cities;

(b) whether these clubs have been licensed; if so, who is the authority that issued the licences and under what powers; and

(c) whether the Government propose to take steps to direct the closure of these clubs?

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A.—(a) Yes.

(b) The clubs are not licensed for betting.

(c) Two clubs have been prosecuted on charges of cheating. The Government intend to introduce a Bill on the subject.

Land Revenue

Construction of the Tamarai Madugu.

295 Q.—Mr. C. S. GOVINDARAJA MUDALIYAR : Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Tamarai Madugu in No. 126, Movur village, Tiruvallur taluk, Chingleput district, becomes constantly silted owing to the absence of an anicut, and whether the ryots are unable to raise crops for want of sufficient supply of water therein ;

(b) whether nanja thirvai is collected all the same ; and

(c) whether the Government will be pleased to order the construction of an anicut almost immediately ?

A.—The Government are not aware that the facts are as suggested nor is there any proposal before them to construct an anicut.

Alleged petitions from the ryots of Movur village.

296 Q.—Mr. C. S. GOVINDARAJA MUDALIYAR : Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state whether any, and if so, what action has been taken on the petitions, dated 17th July 1926, submitted to the Collector of Chingleput and to the Secretary, Board of Revenue, Settlement, dated 31st January 1927, by the ryots of Movur village, Tiruvallur taluk, requesting the grant of relief in respect of the Tamarai Madugu ?

A.—The Government are not aware of the action taken by the Collector of Chingleput on the petition, dated 17th July 1926. The petition addressed to the Board of Revenue is understood to have been forwarded to the Collector for disposal.

Alleged memorial from the ryots of Movur village.

297 Q.—Mr. C. S. GOVINDARAJA MUDALIYAR : Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that a petition regarding the Tamarai Madugu was submitted by the ryots of Movur village to the Collector of Chingleput, and that the same had been forwarded to the Revenue Divisional Officer in Memorandum No. 7385-A, dated 19th May 1925, and to the Chief Engineer in his letter No. 1038-M, dated 17th July 1925 ; and

(b) what action has been taken thereon ?

A.—The hon. Member is referred to the answer to question No. 296.

Failure of crops in Gautami lankas.

298 Q.—Mr. K. V. R. SWAMI : Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government has received any information regarding failure of crops in Gautami lankas ; and

(b) what is the revenue derived from these lankas ?

[15th March 1927]

A.—(a) The Government have received no information except a letter from the President of a Conference held at Mulasthanam on 5th January 1927, in which it is alleged that there has been a failure of crops in the Gautami lankas.

(b) The lankas are leased out periodically.
The Government are not aware what the present lease amounts are.

Famine

Introduction of the charka in famine-stricken areas.

299 Q.—Mr. K. V. R. SWAMI : Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether he will consider the question of introducing the charka in famine-stricken areas ; and

(b) whether the hon. Member will recognize that charka gives employment for people whose social condition will not permit them to go in search of work ?

A.—(a) & (b) The hon. Member is referred to sections 137 and 145 of the Madras Famine Code.

Minor Irrigation

Supply of water to Mantapampalli and other tanks.

300 Q.—Mr. A. PARASURAMA RAO : Will the hon. the Member for Revenue and the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state whether the conditions of water-supply have been the same with regard to the tanks of Mantapampalli, Gangaperur and Pennaperur villages in the same valley as that of Vantimitta and whether even under these tanks large sums have been granted by way of remissions ?

A.—Statement showing the amount of remission granted on land under the tanks in the Mantapampalli, Gangaperur and Pennaperur villages is appended.* The Government have called for information concerning the conditions of the supply of water to these tanks.

Loans for sinking wells to ryots in Ceded districts.

301 Q.—Mr. A. PARASURAMA RAO : Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that the Government lent money about 30 years ago to the ryots of Ceded districts for the purpose of sinking wells at 3 per cent interest ;

(b) whether such a low rate of interest was charged on account of the poverty of the people of the district and also owing to want of facilities for irrigation ;

(c) whether the rate of interest was increased from time to time ; and
(d) what is the rate of interest charged now on such loans ?

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A.—(a) Yes.

(b) Interest at the rate of 3 per cent was charged in the case of loans granted under the Land Improvement Loans Act for the sinking of wells in Cuddapah and certain other districts which were specially liable to drought and also in the case of loans granted under the Agriculturists Loans Act for the relief of distress in any part of the Presidency.

(c) Yes.

(d) All loans under the Land Improvement Loans Act are now liable to interest at $7\frac{1}{4}$ per cent. The rate of interest charged on loans granted for the relief of distress under the Agriculturists Loans Act is still only 3 per cent. In special cases the Government can reduce the rate of interest.

Alleged scarcity and failure of water in South Kanara.

302 Q.—Mr. A. B. SHETTY : Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether the attention of Government has been drawn to the devastation caused in a large number of arca gardens in South Kanara by scarcity and failure of water-supply in the last dry season ;

(b) whether any enquiry has been held to ascertain all cases of damage, as urged by the Ryots' Association in Uppinangadi taluk ; and

(c) whether Government propose to grant remission of assessment according to the merits of each case ?

A.—(a) to (c) The Government have not received any report indicating that the facts are as suggested.

Secretariat

Appointment of Under Secretaries in the Secretariat.

303 Q.—Khan Bahadur S. K. ABDUL RAZACK SAHIB Bahadur : Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) the number of Provincial Service Under Secretaries in the Secretariat ; and

(b) whether the policy of appointing Deputy Collectors as Under Secretaries has been definitely given up ?

A.—(a) One.

(b) There has been no such policy.

Srirangam temple

Repairs to Srirangam temple.

304 Q.—Mr. A. PARASURAMA RAO : Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that memorial was submitted in the year 1921 praying to get the Sriranganathaswami temple in Srirangam repaired and that no orders are yet passed on it ; and

(b) whether the hon. Member will be pleased to consider the memorial and pass orders for carrying out the necessary repairs as stated in the memorial from the funds therein mentioned ?

[15th March 1927]

A.—(a) Yes. One of the interested parties promised to represent the claim personally and produce certain documents in support thereof but has not yet done so.

(b) The Religious Endowments Act XX of 1863 transferred the duties relating to repairs and preservation of buildings connected with the temple from the Revenue Board to the temple committee. The Government do not admit any liability in the matter.

Forests

Transfer of some forests of Cuddapah to panchayats.

305 Q.—Mr. A. PARASURAMA RAO: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether Mr. Whitehead, Conservator of Forests, ever recommended that some of the forests of Cuddapah should be handed over to panchayats;

(b) whether any non-official gentlemen were consulted on the matter and, if so, how; and

(c) what orders have been passed by the Government?

A.—(a) Yes.

(b) & (c) The hon. Member's attention is invited to G.O. No. 94, Development, dated the 21st January 1927, placed on the Editors' Table.

Education

Construction of the High School building at Nandalur.

306 Q.—Mr. A. PARASURAMA RAO: Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Local Self-Government be pleased to state whether the Government sanctioned any amount for constructing the building for the High School at Nandalur?

A.—No.

Amendment of the Madras University Act.

307 Q.—Mr. K. V. R. SWAMI: Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether any, and if so, what defects in the Madras University Act have been brought to the notice of the Government; and

(b) whether the hon. Minister will try to remedy them by amending the Act?

A.—The attention of the hon. Member is invited to the answer to question No. 27 asked at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on the 25th January 1927.

Local Boards

Levy of toll-gate fees in Chingleput district.

308 Q.—Mr. C. N. MUTHURANGA MUDALIYAR: Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether there is a Government Order that there should not be levy of toll-gate fees within a distance of 25 miles;

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(b) whether in the Chingleput district there are three independent toll-gates in Poroor, Pallavaram and Maduravayal each within a distance of 15 miles from the other and two independent toll-gates at Red Hills and Periyapalayam within a distance of about 15 miles ;

(c) whether the Government propose to instruct the District Boards to strictly follow the Government Order in the matter of levying toll-gate fees ; and

(d) if the answer to (a) is in the negative, whether the Government propose to issue a Government Order to the effect ?

A—(a) Executive Instruction No. (218) in the Local Boards Manual says that local fund toll-gates shall ordinarily be twenty miles distant from each other on the *same road* and at least ten miles distant from municipal toll-gates.

(b) The toll-gates exist as named, but are on five different roads.

(c) & (d) The location of toll-gates is now governed by section 105 of the Madras Local Boards Act.

Preparation of voters' lists for Nandigama Taluk Board.

309 Q.—Mr. A. KALESWARA RAO: Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that the President, Taluk Board, Nandigama, Kistna district, got misprinted in the printed voters lists, the names or fathers' names of all the candidates of his rival party ;

(b) whether it is a fact that the misprinted voters' lists were brought to light and sold only on the evening of 14th February 1926 while the nominations of candidates for elections had to be made at Nandigama on 15th February 1926 ;

(c) whether it is a fact that the nominations of the candidates of his rival party were struck off by the said President in ten circles out of twelve circles of the Board on the ground that the real names or fathers' names did not tally with the misprinted voters' lists ;

(d) whether it is a fact that, by so striking off nominations, himself and some of his supporters became members of the Board without a poll ;

(e) whether it is a fact that the said President struck off the nominations as stated above though the Sub-Collector, Bezvada, wrote to him and also told him personally to compare the candidates' names or fathers' names with those found in the original voters' lists supplied by the Sub-Collector to the President ;

(f) whether the Government are aware that that President is Mr. G. V. Ranga Rao, a velama and a relative of the Raja of Mirjapur, the President of Kistna District Board, and has been nominated by the latter as the temporary President of the Board after this event as election of presidentship was stayed by an injunction order issued by the Civil Court ;

(g) whether the Government are aware that a complaint was filed by one Mr. S. Narasimham, one of the candidates whose names had been struck off as detailed above against the said Mr. Ranga Rao in a criminal court of the said misdeeds ;

(h) whether the Government are aware that the complaint was struck off for want of sanction from Government ;

(i) whether the Government are aware that Rs. 1,100 were paid by the said Mr. Ranga Rao as fees to his defence vakil from the funds of the Nandigama Taluk Board even before obtaining sanction of the Board ;

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(k) whether the Government are aware that the taluk board consisting of his own men, got up by striking off his opponents' names, and four men nominated by the Raja of Mirjapur afterwards sanctioned the said Rs. 1,100 to be paid from the taluk board funds;

(l) whether the Government are aware that Mr. Ranga Rao filed a defamation case against the said Mr. S. Narasimham, his son and brother in a criminal court;

(m) whether the Government are aware that Mr. Ranga Rao got the Taluk Board, Nandigama, to sanction payment of Rs. 500 as fees to Mr. Ranga Rao's vakil in the said defamation case out of the taluk board funds;

(n) whether in all those cases where the candidates' nominations were struck off on the ground of misprinting of names or fathers' names in the printed voters' lists, the Government propose to order re-elections calling for fresh nominations;

(o) whether the Government have considered about surcharging the President and members of the board who voted for the sums and recovering from them; and

(p) whether the Government have made an enquiry into the affairs of Nandigama Taluk Board and have taken a strong and exemplary action, and if not, why not?

A.—(a) to (m) The Government have received a petition from certain residents and voters of Nandigama taluk, containing most of the allegations made in these clauses.

(n) The persons affected should have either appealed to the Government or filed election petitions, as the case may be, as soon as their nominations were disallowed. The Government do not propose to interfere at this distance of time.

(o) The question of surcharge is one to be considered at the time of audit.

(p) The matter is under consideration.

Elected President for Rajampet taluk board.

310 Q.—MR. A. PARASURAMA RAO: Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Local Self-Government be pleased to state whether he has considered the question of throwing open the presidentship of the Rajampet taluk board for election and if so, when he proposes to throw it open for election?

A.—The attention of the hon. Member is invited to the answers given to questions Nos. 101 and 1003 on the 19th August 1925 and 14th December 1925, respectively. The question of throwing the Presidentship open to election will be considered when the term of the present appointed President is about to expire.

Lease of the steamer "Nell" to Mr. Atmoori Subba Rao.

311 Q.—MR. A. PARASURAMA RAO: Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Local Self-Government and the hon. the Minister for Development be pleased to state—

(a) whether the steamer "Nell" of the Kistna District Board was leased to Mr. Atmoori Subba Rao and others for a period of 15 years from the year 1913;

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(b) whether there has been a gradual increase in the passenger traffic by such steamer service ever since ;

(c) whether any applications were sent to the District Board offering higher bids for the ferry ;

(d) whether it is a fact that in spite of such offers the President of the Kistna District Board granted a further extension of the contract by eight years from 1st April 1928 even before the original period, as stipulated in the first contract, was over ;

(e) whether by such a course the District Board suffered heavy loss of revenue ;

(f) whether it is a fact that at present the said Atmoori Subba Rao has become the sole owner of the concern having purchased the right of other shares ; and

(g) whether the Government has any objection to institute an inquiry into the matter ?

A.—(a) to (d) & (f) Yes.

(e) The monetary loss to the District Board appears to be about Rs. 1,000. The District Board has to consider the interests of the public before its own monetary advantage.

(g) The Government are not satisfied that any useful purpose will be served by an enquiry.

Civil Veterinary Department

Treatment of cattle diseases.

312 Q.—Mr. J. A. SALDANHA : Will the hon. the Minister for Development be pleased to state—

(a) what are the various kinds of treatment against rinderpest, anthrax and other cattle diseases and what is the approximate period of immunity conferred on cattle by each kind of treatment ;

(b) which treatment is reported to be the most efficacious and effective ;

(c) whether the Veterinary department have introduced into practice the most efficacious one ; and

(d) whether the Veterinary department have introduced the serum simultaneous inoculation, and if not, why not ?

A.—(a) The following are the various kinds of prophylactic or preventive treatment :—

(1) *Rinderpest*—

Serum simultaneous treatment.

Serum alone treatment.

(2) *Anthrax*—

Serum alone treatment.

(3) *Hæmorrhagic Septicæmia or Malignant Sore throat*—

Vaccination.

Serum alone treatment.

(4) *Blackquarter*—

Serum alone treatment.

Serum and aggressin inoculation.

Aggressin inoculation.

The period of immunity conferred is given in the annexed table a.

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- (b) *Rinderpest*.—The serum alone is the more *efficacious* because if all animals are inoculated it cuts short an outbreak by giving immediate immunity.

The serum simultaneous is the more *effective* because it gives immunity for three years or possibly for life.

Anthrax and Hæmorrhagic Septicæmia.—Serum alone is the most suitable for India.

Blackquarter.—Anti-serum is the more *efficacious* for the same reason as in the case of rinderpest.

Aggressin is the more *effective* because it gives at least one year's immunity but it cannot be used in an outbreak.

- (c) Yes.

- (d) The Veterinary department have been making use of this method for some years.

Co-operative Societies

Deputy Registrar of Co-operative Societies, Bellary.

313 Q.—MR. A. PARASURAMA RAO: Will the hon. the Minister for Development be pleased to state—

(a) how many co-operative societies are there in the jurisdiction of the Deputy Registrar of Bellary;

(b) whether Government have received complaints that one officer is found sufficient to cope with the work;

(c) whether the hon. the Minister will call for a report as to the working of the system of Deputy Registrars; and

(d) where there have been complaints that the work of the co-operative societies is hampered owing to the creation of the office of the Deputy Registrar?

A.—(a) The number of societies on 30th June 1926 was 1,317.

(b) No.

(c) The Government do not see any necessity to call for a report. They are watching the working of the system.

(d) The Government are aware that notice was given last year of a motion for reduction of expenditure by the abolition of the posts of Deputy Registrars. As, however, the motion was not made, the Government do not know what reasons the hon. Member had in his mind when giving notice of the motion.

Opening of land mortgage banks in South Kanara.

314 Q.—MR. A. B. SHETTY: Will the hon. the Minister for Development be pleased to state—

(a) whether any land mortgage bank is proposed to be started in South Kanara; and

(b) if so, when?

A.—(a) & (b) There is no proposal to start a land mortgage bank in the South Kanara district at present. No applications have yet been received from the people in the district.

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Industries

Manufacture of soda ash at the Kerala Soap Institute at Calicut.

315 Q.—MR. K. V. R. SWAMI : Will the hon. the Minister for Development be pleased to state—

- (a) what is the total quantity of soda ash remaining in stock at Kerala Soap Institute at Calicut ;
- (b) what is its value ;
- (c) for how long this stock has remained unsold ;
- (d) whether the stuff is good ;
- (e) what steps will be taken to dispose of it ; and
- (f) whether it is proposed to stop the manufacture of soda ash till the present stock is nearly disposed of ?

A.—(a) Seventy-nine tons.

(b) Rupees 7,900-1-2.

(c) Since 1918.

(d) There has been some deterioration in quality by storage.

(e) Socks are being sold as opportunity occurs. Recently the Director of Industries has been directed to address the Inspector-General of Prisons and Surgeon-General whether they could purchase it and also to advertise its sale.

(f) Soda ash was never manufactured in the institute.

Investment on the Kera'a Soap Institute.

316 Q.—MR. K. V. R. SWAMI : Will the hon. the Minister for Development be pleased to state—

- (a) what is the capital investment made on the Kerala Soap Institute at Calicut ;
- (b) for how long it has been working ;
- (c) what is the percentage of profit in each year ; and
- (d) for how long more it is proposed to continue this Institute ?

A.—(a) According to the balance sheet as at 30th September 1926, the amount was Rs. 3,59,862-9-8.

(b) Since 1916-17 ; manufacture on a commercial scale commenced in 1917-18.

(c)	1917-18	...	58.1 per cent.	} After charging interest on capital invested.
	1918-19	...	52.6 "	
	1919-20	...	6.3 "	
	1921-22	...	15.6 "	
	1924-25	...	.2 "	

(d) Till 31st March 1929.

Registration

Removal of the Sub-Registrar's office, Pullampet, to Rajampet.

317 Q.—MR. A. PARASURAMA RAO : Will the hon. the Minister for Development be pleased to state—

- (a) whether there was any requisition till now for the removal of the Sub-Registrar's office, Pullampet, to Rajampet ;

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(b) whether such a requisition was viewed by Government with dis-favour ;

(c) if so, on what grounds ; and

(d) whether the hon. Minister will place the papers connected there-with on the table ?

A.—(a) No.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

Excise

Consumption of liquor in this Presidency.

318 Q.—MR. K. V. R. SWAMI: Will the hon the Minister for Public Health be pleased to state—

(a) how many trees were tapped in each district of this Presidency last year ;

(b) what quantity of country liquor was consumed by each of the districts ;

(c) what is the revenue that each district contributed last year under this head ; and

(d) what are the figures for the previous nine years in respect of (a), (b) and (c) ?

A.—The hon. Member is referred to the Excise Administration report of the several years which have been published. The Government have no further information.

Fisheries

Alleged ill-treatment of a peon in the fish-curing yard at Vadanapalli

319 Q.—MR. J. A. SALDANHA: Will the hon. the Minister for Public Health be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that a peon attached to the fish-curing yard at Vadanapalli in the Ponnani taluk was almost done to death by some Mappillas of that locality in December last ;

(b) whether it is a fact that the Assistant Director of Fisheries who was camping there at Ponnani which is less than 25 miles from the place where this assault is said to have occurred, did not proceed forthwith to the place, but went in the opposite direction to the northernmost point under his jurisdiction and even continued his journey to a place of pilgrimage on the frontiers of Mysore ; and

(c) whether any investigations into this occurrence has been made and if so, by whom and what is the result of the same ?

A.—(a) A peon attached to the fish-curing yard at Vadanapalli was assaulted by some Mappillas in December last but the assault was not a serious one.

(b) The Assistant Director who was then camping at Ponnani at once sent the Inspector of Fisheries at Ponnani to inform the Inspector of Police, Ponnani, of the assault and take the necessary action. He returned to his headquarters at Calicut

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the next day. Four days later he proceeded on tour to the South Kanara district in accordance with the tour programme previously arranged.

- (c) An investigation was made by the Inspector of Fisheries under orders from the Assistant Director. It showed that the assault occurred when the peon was off duty. The peon himself asked for permission to compromise the case. The department did not therefore proceed with the case further.

Public Health

Drinking-water wells in Cuddapah district.

320 Q.—Mr. A. PARASURAMA RAO: Will the hon. the Minister for Public Health be pleased to state—

(a) whether he is not aware that in many parts of Cuddapah district people are feeling dire necessity for drinking-water wells;

(b) whether it is a fact that the small provision made by the local bodies is far too inadequate to meet the demand of the people;

(c) whether the Government will be pleased to consider the desirability of making provision for a sufficiently large subsidy for the purpose of sinking drinking-water wells in the district; and

(d) whether the Government will consider the desirability of appointing a committee immediately, consisting of non-officials with power to co-opt the tahsildars of the taluks for the purpose of selecting places where such wells are most needed and to get the work of sinking wells executed through the help of District Board Engineer and his subordinates?

A.—(a) The Government have no specific information on the point but they are aware that the Cuddapah district has been adversely affected by the present season.

(b) No provision has been made either by the Cuddapah District Board or by the taluk boards in the district in their revised estimates for 1926-27 for the improvement of the water-supply in the rural areas of the district.

(c) The Government have made a grant of Rs. 14,740 during the current year for expenditure on the improvement of the water-supply in the district. In order to become eligible for this grant the local boards have to provide a sum of Rs. 2,384 from their funds. The President, District Board, has reported that Rs. 10,778 had been spent up to 15th January 1927. There remains a balance of Rs. 6,290. The Government are enquiring whether more than this can be spent.

A provision of 2½ lakhs has been included in the Civil Budget Estimates for 1927-28 for grants towards the improvement of the rural water-supply throughout the Presidency. If the Legislative Council sanctions the grant, the claims of the Cuddapah district will be considered at the time of its distribution.

(d) The Government do not consider that it is necessary to appoint a committee.

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II

COMMUNICATIONS TO THE COUNCIL.

The Secretary laid on the table copies of G.O. No 212*, Development, dated 12th February 1927, recording the audit report of the Industrial Engineering Workshop for the half-year ending 30th September 1926.

III

TIME-LIMIT OF SPEECHES ON MOTIONS ON THE BUDGET.

[*Note.*—An asterisk (*) at the commencement of a speech indicates revision by the Member.]

*The hon. the PRESIDENT :—“ Regarding the budget debate upon motions, the practice has hitherto been to fix ten minutes as time-limit for the mover of a motion and for the Government Member replying to it and five minutes for other hon. Members. May I know whether the same practice is to be continued. I wish to know from the leaders of the various parties what their wishes are in the matter.”

* Mr. SAMI VENKATACHALAM CHETTI :—“ I should think that ordinarily ten minutes are quite sufficient. But, I suppose you reserve the right to extend the time in matters which involve explanations of policy or explanations on constitutional questions. I dare say you will extend that privilege to some of those hon. Members who would like to speak upon such important matters ”

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—“ I have no objection to extend the time-limit, if such extension is taken before the beginning of the speech.

“ Before taking up the motions on the Budget, I have to inform the House that the proposals of the Local Government for the appropriation of Provincial revenues and other monies for 1927-28 will be submitted to-day and until the 25th to the vote of the Council in the form of Demands for Grants.

“ Under sub-rule (2) of rule 29 of the Madras Legislative Council Rules, His Excellency the Governor has been pleased to fix one day as the maximum for the discussion of the motions on each of the following demands, viz. :—

Land Revenue	..	..	..	Demand No. I
Education (Transferred)	..	..	..	„ XIX
Civil Works (Transferred)	..	..	..	„ XXX

and half a day as the maximum for motions affecting each of the other Demands. In working this allotment, I propose to treat a day ordinarily as equivalent to four hours and half a day as equivalent to two hours.

“ Neither the Rules nor the Standing Orders prescribe any time-limit for speeches to be made at this stage. I have, however, resolved to fix ten minutes as the time-limit for an hon Member who moves the reduction of a Grant or the reduction or the omission of an item of a Grant, and also ten minutes for the hon. Member of Government who has to answer the motion. Other hon. Members will have five minutes each.

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[The President]

“Hon. Members will kindly remember that under rule 29 (3), it will be my duty at 5 p.m. on the 25th March (Friday) to put every question necessary to dispose of all outstanding matters in connexion with the Demands for Grants. The 28th of March 1927 is reserved for the presentation of further Demands for Grants.

“Past experience has shown that on account of the numerous motions for reduction or omission received from hon. Members, several Demands for Grants have had to be put to vote at the end of the time allotted for the discussion of these Demands, without discussion or amendment. In framing their motions, hon. Members are no doubt actuated by a desire to discuss important points connected with the administration of the departments of Government affected by the Grant; but they do not have sufficient opportunity of discussing them. By the operation of rule 30 (3) of the Council Rules, ‘when several motions relating to the same Demand are offered, they shall be discussed in the order in which the heads to which they relate appear in the budget.’ The heads of each Demand will be seen enumerated in the Schedule of Demands which has been already distributed to hon. Members. Under rule 26 (2) of the Council Rules, each demand made by the Government has to contain first a statement of the total grant proposed and then a statement of the detailed estimate under each Grant divided into items. I take it that it is in compliance with this rule that the Government have caused copies of the Schedule of Demands to be distributed. The President has no discretion to arrange the various groups of motions which relate to different heads of a Demand otherwise than in the order in which the heads appear in the budget; but as among the motions which relate to one and the same head of a Demand, I presume he has got discretion to arrange them for the convenience of the House in the manner most suited for the discussion of the Demand. Accordingly, it will be seen that in the Demand for Land Revenue Department, motions relating to such important topics as the Revenue Settlement Bill, the introduction of a permanent settlement into the ryotwari tracts of this Presidency, the status of the non-gazetted officers in the Revenue Department, representation of several communities in the department, which all relate to the first head of the Demand, viz., ‘5. Land Revenue—India and England’ come very early in the list, while motions relating to the abolition of the Board of Revenue in regard to which Members from various parts of the House have given notices come after other motions which relate to the first head of the Demand. For similar reasons motions relating to the separation of the Executive and Judicial functions which fall only under the third head of this Demand have been placed after all the motions relating to the second head. Again taking Demand No. VII—Irrigation, it will be seen that motions relating to the Mettur project and the Pykhara scheme relate to heads (3), and (4) and (5) of that Demand, and so, have to come after the motions relating to heads Nos. (1) and (2) which relate to what, from the amounts allotted for the heads, may be regarded as less important than the above mentioned projects. In regard to other Demands also, the same procedure has been followed in respect of the arrangement of the motions; that is to say the motions have been arranged, so far as rules permit in a manner calculated to give facilities for the discussion of important topics.

“Under Standing Order 30, a motion must not raise a question substantially identical with one on which the Council has given a decision in the

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same session. As far as possible, motions substantially raising the same question have been printed together, but it is for hon. Members to press, at the time of the discussion, of any particular motion, any other motion raising the same question, and appearing elsewhere in the list, of which they may have given notice. Otherwise, they may be precluded by the operation of Standing Order 30 from making their motions again. For instance, in the Land Revenue Demand, at the time of the discussion of Mr. Krishnan Nayar's first motion relating to the Revenue Settlement Bill, other motions on the same subject, viz., Nos. 2 to 8, on the list of motions can conveniently be discussed and the decision of the House can be taken on all these motions together by putting any one of them to which the House may show preference. By these methods and by treating a day allotted by His Excellency the Governor for the discussion of these demands as consisting of four hours and not five, as in previous years, I have attempted to give full opportunities to the Council to vote on every one of the demands and to give facilities to the Council to ensure the discussion of all important topics. For the rest, it is for the hon. Members themselves to make such arrangements as they consider proper to bring about the same results."

* The hon. Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN :—" With your permission, Sir, may I ask whether Members of Government will be allowed to make one speech for all the speeches that may be made by hon. Members opposite or as many speeches as they like in order to elucidate matters that may be raised in the debate ? "

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" The thing is this I presume that under the rules, the Government members have got opportunities of speaking on each of these motions and on different occasions and it is for the convenience of the House if the Government members speak on the first occasion immediately the motion is made, so that they may adumbrate their policy upon the main question and I shall try my best to call on Government members as the last in the debate when I see that the House is prepared for the question."

The hon. Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN :—" I am much obliged to you, Sir."

Diwan Bahadur P. C. EHIRAJULU NAYUDU :—" May we get a copy of your ruling, Sir."

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" The important portions have already been communicated to the leaders of the various parties in the House. As the hon. Member belongs to one party, he may apply to his party leader to have a copy of it and I have already placed stenographers in the lobby rooms, and I think they will facilitate matters."

LAND REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

" In this Demand, the first two motions belong to two leaders of parties. I want to know whether they want to have the whole debate upon item 1 or upon item 2 or take the vote of the House on both the items separately."

11-45 a.m. * The hon. Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN :—" May I submit for your consideration that the demand must be moved first ? "

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" Yes. I am settling the procedure first."

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Mr. SAMI VENKATACHALAM CHETTI :—" Sir, I should like to have a separate vote on the motion of which I have given notice. Mr. Krishnan Nayar's motion may be similarly dealt with."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" Mr. Sami Venkatachalam Chetti wants to have separate votes taken on the token motion as well as on the substantial out. If that be the procedure to be adopted by the House, I shall do so in all similar cases."

Mr. SAMI VENKATACHALAM CHETTI :—" May I submit that what I wanted to say was that so far as my motion was concerned I wanted to have a vote taken on it. I do not know what Mr. Krishnan Nayar desires to be done with regard to his motion. But I should rather like that my motion should be moved and put separately."

Diwan Bahadur M. KRISHNAN NAYAR :—" I would rather have the token motion moved. I have no objection certainly to the course suggested by my hon. Friend, but I would certainly prefer the token motion discussed for this reason, that I anticipate certain difficulties—of course I am in sympathy with my friend's motion . . ."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" We need not occupy much time on this. If the wish of the House is that a vote is to be taken on the token motion as well as on the motion for substantial out, on this motion and also on similar motions, I shall put both of them to the vote of the House."

IV

MOTIONS ON THE BUDGET FOR 1927-28.

DEMAND I—LAND REVENUE.

* The hon. Mr. N. E. MARJORIBANKS :—" Mr. President, Sir, on the recommendation of His Excellency the Governor, I move

'that Government be granted a sum not exceeding Rs. 253·94 lakhs under Demand No. I—Land Revenue Department'."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" The question is that the Government be granted a sum not exceeding Rs. 253·94 lakhs under demand No. I—Land Revenue Department."

* Diwan Bahadur M. KRISHNAN NAYAR :—" Sir, I move the motion which stands in my name and which runs thus :

'To reduce the allotment of Rs. 24,78,400 for Survey and Settlement by Rs. 100.'

" As has been shown in the agenda paper, the object of my motion is to discuss the need for bringing in a Revenue Settlement Bill giving the power of fixing the rates to the Legislative Council. It was stated so long ago as 1909 by the Royal Commission on Decentralisation that it was necessary to fix in the statute the principles under which the assessment is levied. Subsequently, the Joint Committee of the House of Commons and the House of Lords in paragraph 11 of their report stated that the people concerned had at present no voice whatever in fixing the rates of assessment and that it was necessary that a statute should be framed embodying therein the principles of assessment, the pitch of assessment, the methods of valuation, the periods of revision and other matters connected with Land Revenue Settlement. In

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accordance, I suppose, with that recommendation of the Joint Committee, this Government asked the Board of Revenue to frame a Land Revenue Settlement Bill some years ago. The Revenue Board accordingly framed such a Bill and sent it up to the Government. The Government thereupon constituted a committee and sent that Bill to that committee. They asked the committee to consider the Bill and made recommendations thereon. That committee sat for several days and sent up a new Bill embodying the above principles in it. They stated specifically that the power of fixing the assessment should be left entirely to the Legislative Council and that the Government should carry out the wishes of the Legislative Council, bearing on this question. They further stated that it was also desirable and necessary that the Legislative Council should have the power of ultimately making the rules to be passed under that statute. They stated that the rules framed tentatively by the Government should be laid on the table of this House, when the House was in session, for a period of two months, and this House should be at perfect liberty to alter or modify those rules in any way it pleases, and the rules as ultimately passed by this Council should be published by the Government in the *Port St. George Gazette*. This provision in the Bill was specifically put in by the Committee, along with the provision which specifically says that the Local Government after considering the recommendations of the Collector and the Board of Revenue and such public criticisms as may be invited or made on the scheme framed by the settlement officer should place its proposals before the Legislative Council, and that it should be competent to the Legislative Council, by its resolution, to reject, accept or modify the proposals of the Local Government in such manner as it may think fit, and finally that the Local Government shall pass final orders on that scheme in accordance with such resolution of the Legislative Council. Again, with reference to the rules, paragraph 3 of section 20 of that Bill, provided that such rules should be laid before the Legislative Council for a period of not less than two months when the Council was in session: and that it should be competent to the Council in respect of any of the rules, to make such modifications in them as they might think fit, and that the rules so modified should then be published in the *Port St. George Gazette* and on such publication should have the same effect as if they formed part of the Act.

"Those, I submit, Sir, were the recommendations of the Committee. And the constitution of that Committee lent peculiar weight to its recommendations and also to the sections framed on their basis. I shall mention a few Members who constituted that Committee. The President of that Committee was Sir Muhammad Habib-ul-lah who was then the Revenue Member of this Government. Another Member of this Committee was Mr. MacMichael, a veteran officer who has spent many years in the Settlement Department and who was then also a Member of the Board of Revenue. Another Member of this Committee was my friend Mr. Boag who was then a settlement officer. Another Member again was Mr. Todd who was also a settlement officer and there was Diwan Bahadur Venkatanarayana Nayudu who was a settlement officer at that time. Another Member was Sir C. P. Ramaswami Ayyar who was then Advocate-General. Then again, another Member was Sir Vasudeva Raja who was for some time acting Revenue Member of this Government. Another Member was my hon. Friend, Mr. Siva Rao, who is one of the most experienced Members of this House. Another Member was the late Mr. Somasundara Mudaliyar who, as hon. Members who were also Members of

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the previous Council would know, was an honoured Member of this Council, a very rich mirasidar of Tanjore who knew the land revenue question intimately. Another Member was Mr. Shanmugam Pillai who had really grown grey in the service of the Government in the Revenue Department. There was again, Mr. Ramanuja Achariyar who had considerable experience in the Board of Revenue of which he was Secretary and was specially acquainted with revenue matters. There were also Mr. Sivagnanam Pillai and my hon. Friend, the Second Minister. I have made this enumeration, Sir, just to show that all these gentlemen are of outstanding ability and their recommendations carry peculiar weight attached to the recommendations of that Committee. Now, those recommendations were unanimously made by that Committee presided over by the then Revenue Member of the Government. Those recommendations, curiously enough, were not given effect to by the Government. But the Member of Government, Sir Arthur Knapp, afterwards brought in a Bill in which this provision of giving power of fixing the rates to the Legislative Council did not find a place. After a strenuous discussion, that Bill introduced by Sir Arthur Knapp was thrown out by 60 against 18. Now we find that a draft Bill has been published which is almost on the same lines as those of the Bill brought forward by Sir Arthur Knapp. It is a reproduction of the old Bill and the present Bill also contains no provision for giving power to the Council to fix the rate. No doubt in this Bill as well as in the one brought in by Sir Arthur Knapp, there is provision made that no enhancement at any time should be more than $1\frac{1}{2}$ per cent over the existing rate. That is no doubt an improvement so far as it goes, and it is a welcome provision, but it does not go far. I also understand that probably the objection to the adoption of the Bill framed by the Committee came from the Government of India. I do not know. I am not in the know of the secrets of the Government but it may be that the objection is raised by this Government itself or by the Government of India. If the objection is raised by the Government of India, I hope a vote in favour of this motion will strengthen the hands of my hon. Friend the Revenue Member. But if the objection is from this Government itself, the vote of this House will be a lesson for my friend to act upon.

“There is also another matter, Sir, and that is that this province is the most heavily taxed in respect of land revenue. For instance, the incidence of land revenue for cultivated area in the ryotwari tracts in this Presidency is Rs. 2-8-11. No other province in India pays this amount. For instance in Bombay it is one rupee and odd, in Agra it is one rupee and odd, in Oudh it is the same, in the Central Provinces it is less than a rupee, in Bihar and Orissa it is much less.

“If we take the head of population into account and the incidence of land revenue, it is the heaviest in this province. In Madras, it comes to '27, in Bombay it is '19, in Bengal 16, in the United Provinces it is '14, in the Punjab it is '23, in Bihar and Orissa it is '12, in the Central Provinces it is '08, and in Assam it is '01.

“So that this province is the heaviest land revenue paying province, and it is very necessary that this Council should have the power of passing this Bill and fixing the rate. I submit, Sir, that it is desirable that the Government should bring in a Bill having regard to all that has taken place, on the lines mentioned by me.”

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* Mr. SAMI VENKATACHALAM CHETTI :—" I move, Sir,
'that the allotment of Rs. 24,78,400 for Survey and Settlement be reduced by Rs. 24,78,300'."

"One of the objects which prompted me to give notice of this larger out was to indicate the enormity and the importance of the question that we have been constantly pressing on the attention of the Government. I see, Sir, from the speech of my hon. Friend Mr. Krishnan Nayar that so far as the subject matter of the motion is concerned, there is not any difference of opinion. Therefore it is all the more necessary that my friend must agree to this larger out instead of merely making flea-bites upon the Government. This Government, Sir, is notorious for its imperviousness and unless we are able to show much more effectively the pressure of public opinion, I do not think there is any chance of this Government paying regard to the wishes of the public. Sir, ever since the Joint Committee has opined that the principles of land revenue assessment and other things connected therewith should be embodied in a statute, there has been an impetus given to the originally existing demand for a Land Revenue Settlement Act.

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noon.

"But the Government is not treating the Legislative Council or the public in a courteous manner in putting forward Bills which are far remote from the principles laid down by the Joint Committee. Time after time we are treated with copies of Bills called the Land Revenue Settlement Bill. What do we find therein except the codification of the existing executive rules? The principle which ought to be comprised in a land revenue law, viz, that the Legislative Council should have control, should have the final voice over the assessment, is not at all conceded. Instead of that merely to ask the Legislative Council time after time to consider a mere codification of the existing rules seems to me paying scant courtesy to the Legislative Council. Sir, I find from the speeches made in this connexion during the several occasions on which this subject was considered that there has been a perfect unanimity of feeling. Last time the hon. the Revenue Member attempted to introduce the Land Revenue Settlement Bill but it was rejected by an overwhelming majority consisting of members of all parties. Still he attempts to snatch a vote from the present Legislative Council with almost the same Bill. I have not the least doubt that the proposed Bill will also receive the same fate which its elder brother received a year ago. But I find from the reply given by the hon. the Revenue Member in answer to my friend Mr. Siva Rao that there was nothing to show that what was asked for by Mr. Siva Rao would not be found in the Bill that he proposed to introduce. But on reading the publication of the Bill in the *Fort St. George Gazette* I find there is absolutely no response to the various demands made on the hon. the Revenue Member. Under these circumstances, there seems to be no other go to the Legislative Council than to refuse sanction to any amount for the settlement operations. And the only way of showing our strong protest is to reject the total grant when it is put before the House after the several amendments are carried. The Bill provides for an appeal by the assesses; to whom? To the Board of Revenue. Sir, what is this Board of Revenue? What is the function of the Board of Revenue even with regard to settlement itself? It is the Board of Revenue, I suppose, that finally sanctions the proposals of the Settlement Officer. And yet, the tax-payer is again asked to appeal to the very same authority which originally sanctioned the settlement proposals.

"Again, Sir, the incidence of land revenue in this Presidency is admittedly very severe and even from the point of view of the Government, I mean

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from the revenue point of view, it is necessary that the strain that is put upon the ryot must be relaxed so that he might pick up some vigour and thus prepare himself to be further bled by the hon. the Revenue Member. I would therefore implore all parties of the House to support this amendment and thus express its strong protest against the revenue policy of the Government."

* The hon. Mr. N. E. MARJORIBANKS -- "Mr. President, Sir, the proposition that appears to underlie the position taken up by the hon. Members who have spoken appears to be that this Council should have full control over the fixing of rates of assessment of land revenue. Whether that should be so or not may be a question for discussion : but I only wish to refer to it in connection with our present constitution. No doubt if we had full provincial autonomy the Legislative Council would have full powers of fixing the rates of assessment. But I have my doubts even then whether they would exercise the power by the Council sanctioning the rates themselves. The usual form of procedure in such matters would be for responsible Ministers to carry out measures of this kind. If they do not receive the support of the House they would resign. I doubt very much if any ministry would formulate a Bill in which the Council will be specifically asked to sanction the rates of assessment. However, that is by the way. Under the present constitution, it would seem to be inconsistent with the system which places responsibility for the administration of the Reserved subjects on what is called the Reserved Half that the Council should have a mandatory voice in regard to the fixing of the rates of assessment. I submit that as the actual position, whether desirable or undesirable.

"As regards the argument that a provision that these rates should be voted by the Council has the authority of the report of the Joint Committee I suggest that it cannot be supported by an actual reference to what the Joint Committee have said. What they proposed was that the main principles governing the assessment of land revenue should be embodied in law so that the people most affected might have some voice in shaping the system. That is not quite the same thing. It is true the Committee included, among the main principles of land revenue assessment, 'the pitch of the assessment.' But the context, I think, shows that in using this expression they were referring merely to the standard to be applied in fixing the rates and not to the rates themselves. Furthermore, many remarks of the Joint Select Committee, I think, show very clearly that they were not referring to the ryotwari system at all. Of course, it may be urged that in this matter we must advance by conventions and that although it is a fact that the Reserved Half is the one that is considered irresponsible, we should invite the co-operation and the confidence of the Legislative Council by giving them the power to vote these rates of assessment. Whether experience has so far justified such an argument is largely a matter of opinion. There may be some who doubt whether our experience so far has led us to think that Members would be willing and able to consider such a question on its merits. Under the present conditions of the electorate it is very doubtful whether they will be free to do anything whatever the real opinions of Members may be but vote against any proposal to raise an assessment. The time hardly seems to have come yet when public opinion is so developed as to enable assessment proposals to be viewed entirely on their merits. (A voice : 'Question.')

[Mr. N. E. Marjoribanks]

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"I would like just briefly to refer to some observations made which tend to suggest that in some way this Government have not been consistent or kept their promises in this matter. Both the hon. Members who spoke seem to have overlooked or to have ignored the communication which was published in the press about this time last year in which the reasons for the action taken by the Government were explained. It is a very short communiqué and if I may read it I will do so. It said :

'The Madras Government forwarded to the Government of India a draft of the Land Revenue Settlement Bill for the Madras Presidency which contained provisions giving the local Legislative Council the power to fix by means of a Taxation Bill the money rates of assessment both at initial settlements and at resettlements. The Government of India have expressed their inability to accept the proposal on the grounds that it involves a fundamental departure from the practice which has been hitherto observed in land Revenue settlements throughout India, that no similar proposal is contained in the legislation which either has been introduced or is about to be introduced on the subject in other parts of India and that a careful examination of the language used by the Joint Select Committee shows that their support cannot be claimed for the proposal.'

"For that reason, we did not proceed with the legislation in the last Council. In view of what we had stated in the past, however, it was only due to the Council that we should publish the legislation, we would be prepared to proceed with in order to ascertain if there would be any willingness to accept it. After all, you must not forget that even this Bill gives a statutory form to what my hon. Friend called executive rules. That is certainly an advance. Further, it gives statutory validity to the limitation of increases to 18½ per cent which again is something gained. It would be open when the subject becomes a transferred one to any Minister to propose and add sections to the Bill which would give this House the power of voting on any particular scheme. As I have said however, I think, it would be unnecessary to have such a section nor can I imagine that any Ministry with any majority behind it would ever bring in a Bill to any such effect."

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p.m.

* Mr. S. SATTYAMURTI:—"Mr. President, Sir, the other day in answer to my speech on the budget, when I stated that we of our party will go before the Statutory Commission with a clear conscience, that while we were willing to co-operate with the bureaucracy in this province, what they wanted from us was not co-operation but slavish submission, the hon. the Finance Member in a fit of righteous indignation turned round and asked me 'what will be your answer to the Statutory Commission; you will have to invent some better answer between now and the time of the Royal Commission.' I am glad this morning's debate has given me a better answer. Here is a measure, on the introduction of which all parties and all Members of this hon. House are agreed, excepting the officials, and even among the officials there are at least three occupants of the Treasury Bench, viz., the hon. the Law Member, the hon. the Chief Minister and the hon. the Minister for Development who all set down in black and white that a Bill of the kind we require, namely, vesting in this Council the right to fix the rates of assessment, should be part of the statute law of the land. And what is the bureaucracy's answer to that? They say that their hands are tied, they have addressed the Government of India, and the Government of India are adamant in the matter, and therefore there is no help. If that is so, my answer to the Royal Commission will be this: 'Abolish diarchy, introduce provincial autonomy, and make it possible at least in matters on which the legislature is practically unanimous to have its wishes translated into statute form.' My hon. Friend, the Revenue Member, with his usual blandness and suavity

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conceded that in principle it might be right for the Legislative Council to have the right to fix the rates of assessment, although he said, that even under full responsible Government in the province he could not conceive of this Bill, if the requirements of legislative sanction have been complied with, working by means of responsible Ministers introducing a particular Bill fixing the rates of assessment and, if it is not accepted, by the Minister resigning. I have no desire to quarrel with him as to the form which it ought to take. Our quarrel is with regard to the substance. Is this Council to have or not to have the right to legitimately control the rates of assessment? Much play has been made of the words used by the Joint Parliamentary Committee which prescribes that this matter should come within the purview of the legislature. My hon. Friend the Revenue Member read two sentences to state that what they were thinking of was more the reduction into statute form of the present executive rules governing settlements and resettlements and not what we demand and require, namely vesting in this Council the power to vote veto. But, Sir, may I read two other sentences? The first sentence is this :

‘The Committee are impressed by the objections raised by many witnesses to the manner in which any class of taxation can be laid upon the people of India by executive action without in some cases any statutory limitation of the rates and in other cases any adequate prescription by statute of the methods of assessment.’

“The next sentence is this :

‘They consider that the imposition of new burdens should be gradually brought more within the purview of the legislature.’

“Taking that sentence, Sir, may I not ask the hon. the Revenue Member to consider it to mean that at least so far as the resettlement rates are concerned, that is to say where you seek to impose new burdens on the landholders, that ought to be brought more within the purview of the legislature. I am putting it most mildly. Is it inconsistent with the requirements of this province that this Council should have the power to fix the rates of assessment at each resettlement? And the last sentence is

‘The subject is one which probably would not be transferred to Ministers until the electorate included a satisfactory representation of rural interests, those of the tenantry as well as of the landlords and the system should be established on a clear statutory basis before the change takes place.’

“I submit, Mr. President, that the Government of Madras as well as the Government of India are taking refuge in petti-fogging interpretation of the language used by the Joint Parliamentary Committee and are not trying to carry out the spirit of the recommendations of the Joint Committee. My hon. Friend the Revenue Member also said that under the present constitution, since land revenue is a reserved subject, it is impossible to have a measure of this kind. I join issue with him on that matter. I grant that it is a reserved subject, but there is no provision in the statute which prohibits a reserved subject being brought under legislative control by means of a statute in this House. Taking that argument to its logical conclusion, it comes to this. that so far as reserved subjects are concerned there can be no statutory law in this province which vests the ultimate voice in this House. I do not think anybody on the Treasury Bench would argue that that position is sound. I was glad to hear, Mr. President, that he conceded that a matter like this should be based on convention. Even assuming for one moment that these are reserved subjects, what is there preventing conventions growing here, under which, with regard to resettlements, this House will have a large voice. My hon. Friend the Revenue

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Member read an extract from the Government of India despatch in which they said that this is a fundamental departure. I agree. But because it is a fundamental departure, or because it is felt that such a statute has not been introduced into any other Council, it does not follow that we in Madras have no right, and Government are unable to give any argument against it. I ask, what is the reason? Why should not the Government press forward this Bill? My hon. Friend Mr. Krishnan Nayar who moved the token motion gave a brilliant galaxy of names. I have no desire to repeat them. But I think, to say as Sir Arthur Knapp said, that this desire on the part of the House to have control over these land revenue resettlements is of a revolutionary character, is essentially something which cannot be justified.

"One last word, Mr. President. It is a case really of the Government's, at any rate with regard to the pattadars who pay Rs 10 and less, slow, I do not say of their deliberate or conscious, attempt to kill the goose that lays the golden egg. The chronic poverty of the agriculturists is a problem which must tax the attention of the administrators of this province whether under foreign rule or under *Swaraj*. I agree that an all-round permanent settlement may not be a desirable solution. It may be that all agricultural incomes over Rs. 2,000 a year may have to be brought under income-tax. But with that provision, I think, Mr. President, a permanent settlement of the land revenue will go a long way towards making the economic conditions of a large, if not a predominantly large, part of our people what they ought to be. This Bill, Sir, is in one respect even worse than Sir Arthur Knapp's Bill. In Sir Arthur Knapp's Bill at least, Sir, the rules were to be placed on the table of the Council for a period of not less than two months when the Council was in session. My hon. Friend the Revenue Member has introduced an 'improvement'. It is to lay it on the table of the House for a period of two months, probably in June and July or in May and June, when there is no chance of our meeting at all. There is a real danger, as my hon. Friend the Second Minister when on this side of the House pointed out, when without getting full statutory control over the assessment we agree to this Bill. The danger is that we are giving legislative sanction to executive action, and therefore, in regard to each resettlement or settlement, the officials will go forward in their own way saying that they are acting under the wishes of the Council, whereas now at least there is a fear that in the case of executive orders this Council may sit in judgment over them. I do hope that this Council will vote for this block motion, which my hon. Friend Mr. Sami Venkatachalam Chetti has moved to cut Rs. 24,78,300 and compel the hon. the Revenue Member to go to the Governor and say 'unless Your Excellency is going to certify, I shall have to close my shop'. I think it is the only way in which the strong resentment of this House could be expressed against the Bill."

* Mr S MUTTAYYA MUDALIYAR :—"Mr. President, Sir, I have given notice of similar motions, No. 10 and 12^a on the agenda paper, and they raise the same question. I wish to discuss the matter thoroughly, and I crave for some more time than is prescribed."

a 10 Mr. S. MUTTAYYA MUDALIYAR :—

To reduce the allotment of Rs. 24,78,400 for survey and settlement by Rs. 100.

(To discuss the Land Revenue Settlement Bill and the possibility of permanent settlement.)

12 Mr. S. MUTTAYYA MUDALIYAR :—

To reduce the allotment of Rs. 24,78,400 for survey and settlement by Rs. 100.

(To discuss the abolition of the Survey and Settlement department.)

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* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—“ It is only regarding the movers of motions that I have agreed to extend the time. Regarding those that support the motion, I cannot exceed the five minutes time limit, already fixed but I may extend the time limits whenever I think it necessary.”

* Mr. S. MUTTAYYA MUDALIYAR :—“ Then, may I ask your permission whether I can move my motions ? ”

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—“ If the hon. Member wants to move his motions, he will have to wait. Now, it is only if he wants to speak on the motion that has been made by Mr. Krishnan Nayar or by Mr. Sami Venkatachalam Chetti that I can allow him to do so.”

* Mr. S. MUTTAYYA MUDALIYAR :—“ May I ask whether I cannot move my motions now ? ”

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—“ I cannot give my ruling in anticipation.”

* Mr. S. MUTTAYYA MUDALIYAR :—“ Then, Sir, I request your permission to move my motions later on.”

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—“ Is the hon. Member going to speak on this motion ? ”

* Mr. S. MUTTAYYA MUDALIYAR :—“ When I make my motions later, you will be pleased to grant me sufficient time (laughter). Sir, I have given notice of a motion which is identical with this, and I am now speaking on the motions of Mr. Sami Venkatachalam Chetti and Mr. Krishnan Nayar, and my idea is this, that the Survey and Settlement department can and ought to be abolished. The Survey and Settlement department have been in existence for a century in this province and almost all the areas in the province have been surveyed. There may be one or two places where fresh lands have to be brought under cultivation which may have to be surveyed. Making due allowances for that, certainly I do not believe that the Survey department is doing very useful work by resurveying lands already surveyed. The cost of the establishment as found from the budget is about Rs. 25 lakhs a year. Even assuming that the Board of Revenue is necessary, and the revenue inspectors who are included are necessary, and some small remnant of the Survey department is necessary, the cost may come to Rs. 7 or 8 lakhs, so that the balance expenditure which I consider unnecessary for the Survey and Settlement department is about Rs. 16 or 17 lakhs a year. Taking the figures from 1910 to 1925, the net rise in the revenue of the province has been from Rs. 5 crores to Rs. 5 crores and 65 lakhs, so that with the operation for fifteen years of the Survey and Settlement department the revenues have increased only by Rs. 60 lakhs, half of which is due to fresh lands brought under cultivation. Taking the increase due to revision of assessment at about 2 lakhs a year, and capitalizing these two lakhs at 6 per cent compound interest it comes to Rs. 33 lakhs. Probably I shall be able to show later on how much of the expenditure on this department is unnecessary. The net profit deducting the expenditure comes to about Rs. 16 or 17 lakhs a year and capitalizing this for 30 years and taking the present value, it will come to about Rs. 1 crore and 75 lakhs, so that if the Survey and Settlement department should go on spending, the net profit in a cycle of 30 years can be represented by the capitalized value. So that for the purpose of an earning of 1 crore and 75 lakhs, the Government propose to go on spending Rs. 25 lakhs a year and continue this establishment

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p.m. for 30 years. The expenditure is more than half of what is earned. I propose as an alternative to this, if the Government is anxious that there should be no permanent settlement and that the revenue of the province should go on increasing, and for a moment I shall leave aside the contingency of the revenue going down owing to fall in prices, it will be perfectly enough if you raise a small premium of 12 annas or one rupee in each acre of cultivated land, and this amount may be lent out at interest. This is the proposal which I wish to place for the consideration of Government, and it will obviate the necessity of our wrangling on this side of the House that the enhancement of land revenue must be placed before the Legislative Council and the Government of India and the Government of Madras attempting to go against the wishes of the vast majority of this House. In this way we shall get over our difficulty, and we shall be rid of this bother and bugbear of enhancement of revenue. With these words, I support the motion."

Mr. K. R. VENKATARAMA AYYAR :—" Mr. President, Sir, I rise to support the motion of my hon. Friend, Mr. Krishnan Nayar. Ours is an agricultural country and a tax on agriculture is indeed a tax upon the primary occupation of the large masses of population in this country. If the Legislative Council of the province will not be allowed to have the ultimate control over the principles of settling the rent and rates of assessment in respect of this primary occupation of the country, I think all talk of self-government or any government in the direction of self-government is a farce. On this point, I think there is no difference of opinion between one side of the House and another. It was well that Mr. Krishnan Nayar started this topic with a token cut. It is why in the fitness of things that the Leader of the Opposition with the spirit characteristic of that party made it a substantial cut, not that there is any difference of opinion between one side of the House and the other on this all important topic. All of us are of one mind on this. Whereas Mr. Krishnan Nayar thinks that the sense of this House is sufficiently conveyed by voting in favour of this token cut, perhaps the Leader of the Opposition thinks that with due regard to our experience of the attitude of the Government in the past nothing short of a substantial cut will bring home to the Government an adequate realization of what the country feels on this subject.

" There is a good deal to be said in favour of the view of the Leader of the Opposition. (Hear, hear.) But as there are temperamental differences even in this House, let it not be understood that because some of us support the motion of Mr. Krishnan Nayar, we feel any the less on the motion of the Leader of the Opposition. If we on this side give our vote en bloc in favour of the motion of Mr. Krishnan Nayar, let it not be assumed for that reason that we feel any the less than the Leader of the Opposition on this important topic. If our method, even after this chance, fails to bring Government to a perception of what they owe to the people of this country, then I do not think it will be long before we rally together and make our temperament more exactly approximating to that of the Leader of the Opposition."

* Mr. K. V. R. SWAMI :—" Mr. President, Sir, what I cannot understand is the expenditure on the Survey department. The land in this country has been surveyed four times within a period of 120 years. Now they want to survey it again. I do not know the purpose for which this survey is intended. It is said that it will settle the boundary disputes. But these

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settlements of Survey Officers are binding on nobody because the party concerned may rush to a civil court which may settle the dispute as it likes. The decision of the Survey department is not binding on the court. It is absurd to think that so much money should be wasted on such surveys which profit nobody, and I do not believe that the Government think that by adopting a new survey the land is going to be increased in extent or that they would derive more revenue from the land.

“Now, with regard to the question of settlement, the view point is quite different. The bureaucracy thinks that they have the right to increase the tax just as they like; but we who represent the people think that they have not got such right and that such right should not be exercised by the bureaucracy. The hon. the Revenue Member had made it quite clear to this House to-day and on very many occasions before that he is not responsible to this House. I do not agree with him in his theory of responsibility or irresponsibility. He is not responsible to any one. Is that the position? To whom is he responsible? Perhaps my Friend the Revenue Member may say that he is responsible to the Government of India. To whom are the Government of India responsible? You may say, to the Secretary of State. And the Secretary of State is responsible to himself only. I know as a matter of fact he is not in any way responsible to anybody. If the Government of India or the Secretary of State were responsible to Parliament, they would have paid more respect to the Joint Committee's report. They set at naught even the findings of the Joint Committee of Parliament. Now, with regard to this matter, as rightly pointed out by Mr. Krishnan Nayar, land taxation is the heaviest in this presidency and is growing by leaps and bounds. It will be seen that in the year 1891-92, the land tax was only 392 lakhs. In 1921-22, it was 620 lakhs. Now in the budget year, it is 755 lakhs. That means that so much money is taken from the poor man, for; 70 per cent of the ryots are only pattadars paying Rs. 10 and less—and he is deprived of the means of livelihood. The hon. the Revenue Member thinks that if the increments are made to depend upon the vote of this House, even if autonomy is granted, the representatives of the House may not feel their responsibility. I do not at all agree with him there. We see with regard to local bodies, the power of assessment is now given to them and they increase the tax whenever necessary. Whenever the Minister in charge finds that taxation is heavy in this case—whoever may be in charge of the department, whether it is a Minister of one party or of another he would certainly feel the responsibility and see how the income may be supplemented without burdening the poor, and he would even consent as my Friend Mr. Satyamurti suggested, to the levy of an income-tax on incomes from land of over Rs. 2,000 or so. I quite believe that if this power is given to this House, they are not going to shirk their responsibility in assessing taxes and managing affairs in a proper manner. So, with these few words, I recommend the total out to the Members of this House. My hon. Friend, Mr. Venkatarama Ayyar said that he quite sympathized with the proposition but he was not going to vote for it. If he really sympathizes with the proposition moved by the Leader of the Opposition why should he not vote for it? Where is the delicacy? We have already tried the bureaucracy more than once and found them wanting. Then, why should he trust them again? (Hear, hear.) If he really means business, if he really represents the constituency which sent him here, he should vote for the total out. We have again and again put forward resolutions for permanent settlement, but the Reserved Half never felt any delicacy in refusing to accede to our

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demands. So I request all the Members of all the parties, without any deli-
cacy whatsoever, without giving any more chance to the bureaucracy for
further rectification—because we have heard what has fallen from the lips of
the hon. the Revenue Member who has clearly shown that he could not do
anything in the matter—to join in this motion and thus carry the total out.”

* Mr. C. R. PARTHASARATHI AYYANGAR :—“ Sir, there are two principles
which are affected by the continuance of this department. First the
assumption is that the executive department of the State is the owner of the
land, and is entirely at liberty to vary the rates as it pleased. The second
principle they are following is to encourage the system of peasant proprie-
tors in the country. We want that we should have the right of regulating
the increase or decrease of taxation. Generally, it was understood until the
British advent—before Sir Thomas Munro introduced the ryotwari system
—that the owner of the land was the ryot and not the King. The King
was only paid a certain share for the protection he gave to his subjects. But
the theory of modern Government is, ‘ Oh, you were ruled by despots and
they were the owners of the land, and therefore we as their successors have a
right to increase the tax.’ This theory was knocked on the head by the late
Sir Subrahmanya Ayyar. But still, notwithstanding that, the idea is carried
on as if the executive Government is the owner of the soil. It is entirely
opposed to the theory of the Indian State.

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“ It offends the principle that the State is here to benefit the ruled and not
the rulers. It seems to think that the agricultural income is the only source
of income in the country and that it can be made to expand at will. The
theory that the State is the owner of the land is absolutely wrong. My
definite answer to it is in the negative. Therefore settlement and survey
are not necessary in the land and they ought to cease to exist.

“ My second complaint is this : Why should not all the revenue officials
from the Collector downwards, be employed to improve the output from the
land? The best way of doing it will be to see that there is only one
cultivation in every village. I mean to say that the system of peasant
proprietorship is causing ruin to the agriculturists and therefore the
Minister should put an end to it and see that there is only one joint cul-
tivation and one threshing floor in a village. This would make available a
large area for cultivation. On these two principles I strongly support the
motion. I feel that the whole department of survey and settlement is ante-
diluvian and does not deserve to exist any longer.”

* Mr. K. R. KARANT :—“ Sir, any satisfactory Revenue Settlement Bill
should provide for two things. The first is that the rates should be settled
finally by this Council and the second is that in the application of the rates
to any particular area there must be an impartial tribunal to see that they
are properly applied. Judging by these two points, I think the present Bill
that has been brought forward is absolutely unsatisfactory. I find that in
some quarters it has been said and repeated now by the hon. the Revenue
Member that the Bill provides that at a resettlement there will not be any
more rise than 18½ per cent. But even this I will point out to hon. Mem-
bers is a ruse. If you read the Bill you will find in clause 33, sub-clause
(2), this provision, viz. :

‘ In the case of agricultural lands where the proposals for the revision of assessment
include a percentage enhancement of or a decrease in the immediately previous rates on the
ground of a rise or fall in prices, the enhancement or decrease on this account shall not exceed
18½ per cent.’

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"So it means only where the basis is rise or fall in prices that it shall not exceed 18½ per cent. But there are in the Bill other clauses under which the executive can ride a coach and four. Clauses 28 and 29 provide that where the convenience of transport or conditions of irrigation or of any other facilities, etc., have varied in any particular area they may also be grounds for increasing the rates. The clause providing for a maximum of 18½ per cent will not apply to such cases at all.

"As regards my second point, my submission is that the power should be given to the Civil Courts and not as stated in the clause to a prescribed officer, who, I have no doubt, will be some man from the Revenue department. Even here we find that the Board of Revenue has always got the right to set aside the decision come to by this appellate officer whereas a private party has no right of appeal.

"I wish also to submit one or two points regarding the district of South Kanara which I represent. I submit that the resurvey and settlement operations in that district should not go on until a proper Settlement Bill is passed in the Legislative Council. So far as the settlement is concerned hon. Members have made numerous criticisms. So far as the resurvey is concerned I see from the proceedings of this Council that last year an assurance was given that there would not probably be any more resurvey in parts of the district other than one taluk. A great complaint with regard to the resurvey in our district is this. I do concede that to some extent the last survey was not satisfactory, but at the same time I wish to submit that the present survey is done in a most unsatisfactory manner. What I mean is this, that the officers employed have usually to live on Rs. 22-8-0 or Rs. 30 and very naturally they have to augment their income. What we find is—as a matter of fact I am prepared to make a challenge to the hon. the Revenue Member—that in every village in which there has been resurvey there are any number of mistakes, not because of the survey but because of its application. Survey stones are fixed far beyond where they ought to be. In most cases private lands are included in poramboke. I have no doubt that this resurvey will bring in any amount of litigation. I admit there were many mistakes committed at the time of the last survey, but most of them have been rectified. Now what is happening is that these people go and transplant stones from place to place. This will give rise to a lot of litigation in future. My submission is that the village shambhogs with the help of the land record tahsildars are quite ample to rectify any existing mistakes and that this resurvey should be stopped in our district. A number of associations in our district have already said that they do not want this costly thing. Nine lakhs of rupees were spent about the year 1901 for the survey of the whole district and now the people have to pay again, because it seems that at that time, survey was not conducted properly. My submission is that even though there may be some mistakes here and there, the present staff, if it is given some extra help, will be quite able to cope with the situation. It is not at all necessary to have this resurvey department which plays havoc and gives a lot of trouble to the people and is sure to increase litigation in the district."

* Mr. S. ARPUDASWAMI UDAYAR :—"Mr. President, Sir, I support Mr. Krishnan Nayar's motion for this reason, viz., that any delay in bringing in a Revenue Settlement Bill vesting the power of fixing the rates in this Council will have a very prejudicial effect on the prospects of agriculture in my districts. It is responsible for the creation of a feeling of insecurity in my

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districts. I know of very many mirasidars who are on the look out for purchasers for their lands seeing that the lands yield only an income of 4 per cent on an average and then there is this Damocles' sword hanging over their heads, viz, the increase of the rates after the settlement. Under these circumstances, men who are already tired of the hard labour and the worry entailed by agricultural operations feel that it is safer to invest their money in the banks. Sir, if this Council was given the power of fixing the rates or having their say in their ultimate determination, then, people will have the feeling that the Council being responsible to the electorate their representatives will safeguard their interests. Thus, we may have a greater feeling of security in the country. Now, because of this element of uncertainty all that we may do in order to afford increased irrigation facilities or all that the Agricultural department may do in order to promote intensive cultivation will be practically of no avail. So, for this one reason, viz, that it is highly and extremely necessary to create this feeling of security in the country instead of perpetuating the present unsatisfactory condition and gloomy prospects of agriculture I have very great pleasure in supporting this motion."

* Mr. C. RAMASOMAYAJULU :—" Sir, in accordance with the suggestion made by you that my motion ^a too can be discussed along with the one now before the House, I rise to speak a few words on this motion. I wish to deal at the same time with the specific motion which I have given notice of. Of the three reasons which I have mentioned in the cut I have proposed, the first deals with the question of suspending the re-settlement operations now going on in East Godavari and West Godavari districts until the Land Revenue Settlement Bill becomes law. The second and the third reason deal with the state of pattadars paying Rs. 10 and below. With reference to these people, I wish to make two alternative suggestions to the House. My first suggestion is that they may be exempted from the payment of land revenue altogether. My second suggestion^c is that they may at least be granted exemption from the operation of the re-settlement.

"Now, with reference to the first suggestion, Sir, the Land Revenue Bill which has been recently published contains a section which says that no objection can at any time be taken with reference to the settlement made or now being made or to any act which has been done on the ground that the same is not done in pursuance of the Land Revenue Act. That means to say, it exempts the present settlement altogether from the operation of the Land Revenue Bill. It is this provision which has compelled me to put in this motion before the House. The Members of the Council might be aware, Sir, that some time back, in the year 1921, my hon. Friend Mr. Siva Rao brought a similar motion when the previous Land Revenue Bill was under contemplation. Of course his motion was that the operations of the settlement rates might be suspended until a Land Revenue Bill was placed before the Council and became law. The wording of my present motion is more

^a " Mr. RAMASOMAYAJULU :—

To reduce the allotment of Rs. 24,78,400 for survey and settlement by Rs. 100.

- (i) To discuss the desirability of suspending the resettlement operations now going on in East Godavari and West Godavari districts until the Land Revenue Settlement becomes law.
- (ii) To discuss the desirability of exempting pattadars assessable at Rs. 10 and below from payment of land revenue.
- (iii) To discuss the desirability of exempting pattadars assessable at Rs. 10 and below from the operation of the resettlement.]

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comprehensive than that. My motion is that the settlement operations may be suspended not with reference to fixing the rates merely. Why it is that I have worded this motion in this manner, I am bound to explain to the Council. There are two reasons for it. The first is that when Mr. Siva Rao made a similar motion in 1921 the Bill was still in embryo, had not been drafted and nobody could say with certainty when it was likely to take the shape of a Bill and when it was to be passed into law. Another reason which impelled me to word my motion in this way is this. During the discussion of Mr. Siva Rao's motion it was pointed out by two Members of Government (Sir Muhammad Habib-ul-lah and Sir Charles Todhunter) that if the settlement was to go on systematised lines and if ultimately a Bill was to come up before the Council, it would be waste of time and money if we were to be compelled to take a new method of calculation to arrive at figures or rates in pursuance of the Act to be ultimately passed. This ground was set forth against the motion of Mr. Siva Rao. That is why I have forestalled this objection. Therefore, I wish that the settlement operations may be suspended until the Bill becomes law. Further, we are in almost actual contact with the Bill since it will be coming up for discussion in the August session. Therefore the reasons then put forth for limiting the motion to the operative character do not exist any longer. Now, we can ask for the suspension of the settlement operations instead of merely the operative portions of them. I may point out that although the motion was opposed by the Government Members on that occasion it was passed by a huge majority in this House and, as a matter of fact, the Government, in spite of their opposition to it, did yield to it ultimately and postponed giving effect to the rates proposed until the year 1924. So much so, seeing that a precedent has already been established in the matter and seeing that we are in actual contact with the Bill, I suppose there will be no serious objection to accept the principle contained in the first of the three reasons given for my motion.

"Then, Sir, with reference to the remaining two questions, I think I will have to tread a thorny path. It seems to me that views have been taken— 1 p.m.
I do not know on what basis—by the Taxation Enquiry Committee and by the Government that land revenue must be taken as a tax *in rem*. The Taxation Enquiry Committee after its laborious enquiry came to the conclusion that the case of pattadars paying Rs. 10 and below was the hardest among the cultivators. They have a good deal of sympathy for them but they provide absolutely no remedy for them. They say that, because land revenue is a tax *in rem*, they cannot go behind it and exempt the poor tax-payers. I cannot understand that kind of reason. They recommended that there should be methods of better rural economy and not total exemption from land revenue. I need not talk of the sad plight of the small pattadars, their large families, and larger indebtedness and the fickleness of the seasons. These are pointed out by the Taxation Committee themselves. They have the greatest sympathy for the ryots. But they prefer the plea that land revenue is a tax *in rem*. With the courtesy of a particular association which sent memorials on these matters in the year 1897 at the time of the previous settlement, I have got the figures for a particular fasli for my district."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—"The hon. Member will kindly resume his seat, as his time-limit is reached."

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* Mr. P. SIVA RAO :—" Sir, I wish to say a few words on this very important question. We are acquainted with the history of this question, how a committee was appointed as early as 1920 and it was decided to proceed with legislation. It was in 1921 that I had the privilege of moving a resolution in this House that the principles of land revenue legislation should be codified and placed on a statutory basis, and that the resettlement operations then pending should be suspended. No doubt, Sir, the Government were kind enough to comply with that request and out of deference to the unanimous wish of the Legislative Council they postponed the adoption of the resettlement proposals till the contemplated Bill was passed. Then, as my hon. Colleague, Mr. Krishnan Nayar, alluded to a very strong, influential and representative committee was appointed. A *via media* was arrived at between two different opinions, and we came to the unanimous conclusion that at any rate, the resettlement operations should receive the positive approval of the Legislative Council. It is needless for me to mention that this proposal was recommended and agreed to by no less a gentleman than Sir Muhammad Habib-ul-lah who is now in the Viceroy's Council in charge of the Revenue Department. We thought that we could have no difficulty whatever in carrying through this piece of legislation. But the Government of India seems to have been an obstacle in the way of the Local Government. A third remedy or alternative was also proposed that resettlement proposals should be introduced by way of a Financial Bill in the Legislative Council and passed. In such a case, it should be open to the Executive Government to bring it in the form of a Financial proposal and have it passed in the Legislative Council. That proposal also was not brought up.

" We had then the Bill which was introduced by the hon. Sir Arthur Knapp and it rightly met with the fate which it really deserved. What is the skeleton of the present Bill which is published in the gazette? The Bill provides only for the laying on the table of the House, the resettlement proposals for about two months. This is, in my opinion, a very inadequate and illusory safeguard against the excess assessments which the executive authorities may propose in this matter. As it is, the resettlement proposals are published in the gazette and the public who are affected thereby are invited to formulate any objections to them. I do not think, by passing this Bill we are making any improvement or taking any step forward.

" Now, Sir, I welcome one feature of the Bill as was done by my hon. Friend Mr. Krishnan Nayar. That is, they have fixed the pitch of the assessment to a maximum of 18½ per cent. There is absolutely no other merit in the Bill. I do not think it will have any chance of passing its first reading in this Council.

" One other matter with which I shall close. What is the use of legislation on the subject, if resettlement proposals are allowed to go on without taking note of the impending legislation. Whom is this piece of legislation going to benefit? Resettlements are already over; the Ceded districts have come under them; South Kanara is under this process now. It is absolutely necessary that so far as resettlement proposals are concerned, the Government should stay their hands pending this piece of legislation. Otherwise, there is absolutely no need for formulating the proposals."

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Mr. P. C. VENKATAPATI RAJU :—“ Mr. President, Sir, I rise to support the motion moved by the hon. the Leader of the Opposition, though on different grounds. I have given notice of a motion asking for a permanent settlement. This substantial cut of the Leader of the Opposition will very well suit my purpose. When I want permanent settlement, I do not want the Survey and Settlement departments to go on unduly increasing the cess year after year.”

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—“ If the hon. Member wants to speak on permanent settlement, he may do so on another occasion. The question now before the House is the Land Revenue Bill.”

Mr. P. C. VENKATAPATI RAJU :—“ I shall then wait for my turn.”

* The hon. Mr. N. E. MARJORIBANKS :—“ Sir, I do not wish to go again over the ground traversed by hon. Members. As regards the application of the recommendations of the Joint Select Committee I wish merely to reiterate that the Bill that has been published does bring the operations of settlements within the purview of the Legislative Council. Certain details of the Bill published in the Gazette have been criticised; but, that Bill is not before the House now. I do not think this is the time to go into its details.

“ I should like to notice two main suggestions that have been made. One is that the Survey and Settlement Departments should be entirely abolished; the second is that settlement operations should be suspended pending the passing of a Land Revenue Settlement Bill. What I would like hon. Members should be quite clear about, is that these operations have no necessary connexion at all with raising the rates of assessment. Even if we do not raise the rates, even by one pie, it would still be necessary in the interests of the ryots themselves that these operations should be carried out in order that their properties might be correctly registered and in order that each man might know what amount is properly due to him without any question of increase or decrease in the rate. Hon. Members are aware that I have some special experience in the matter. For a period of seven years it was my duty to tour amongst the villages all over the Presidency. I have never found any place where the ryots were not most anxious that their lands should be correctly surveyed and registered. I quite admit that it is possible to have a too meticulous standard in this matter and I sympathise and personally agree with much of what fell from the hon. Member from South Kanara. We do not wish to go on making any further survey in any place where there is a sufficiently correct and proper record of the holdings of the ryots. It is only in those places where it has been proved to us beyond doubt that defective methods have been adopted unfortunately for reasons of economy and where the existing records are incorrect and inadequate for the purpose of recording further changes that we have reluctantly agreed to a further survey. As has been pointed out by several hon. Members, resurvey is very costly and the whole cost does not fall on the ryots alone; most of it falls on the general tax-payer. As a financial proposition it is not worth our while; it can only be justified on account of the advantages which the ryots get from it. We will, no doubt, have another opportunity of discussing more particularly the case of South Kanara and other places.

“ As regards the duties of the staff engaged, they consist in correcting the registers, in carrying out the transfers which the ryots have asked for and in seeing that the registration of all waste lands, and porambokes are correctly made. In all these things the ryots are most interested and are very anxious that they should be properly done. It has nothing to do with

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increasing the assessment or altering it in any way. Hon. Members, or most of them, have some experience or knowledge of the land revenue system and will probably realise that it is quite possible to increase the rates at present assessed by one anna or two annas or three annas in the rupee without employing any additional staff whatsoever. That is why, I think, they are speaking under some misapprehension when they contend that no money should be spent on the department and ask what is being done by the staff."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" I believe the house is now ready for the question."

MR. SAMI VENKATACHALAM CHETTI :—" May I make a submission, Sir ? I suppose the motion of which I have given notice will be put first."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" May I know the authority on which the hon. Member relies ?"

MR. SAMI VENKATACHALAM CHETTI :—" My motion is for a larger cut in the grant and, if it is carried, the other amount would be comprised in it."

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" No. The first is a motion for the reduction of a token amount while the second is for a substantial cut. Token motions, according to the practice in this House, are put first and then the substantial motions are put, and I do not see any reason why I should deviate from the established practice of this House. If the hon. the Leader of the Opposition has got any authority to quote, I have no objection to examine the question. Has he got any precedents of this House in his view when he makes such a statement ?"

MR. SAMI VENKATACHALAM CHETTI :—" Sir, the practice has been, if I remember correctly . . ."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" I should like to have the precedents. I have already mentioned that, according to my recollection of the practice of this House, the token motions are put first and then the substantial motions. If the hon. the Leader of the Opposition has got any precedents in his view, I request him to refer me to those precedents. It is not a question of one memory against another memory."

MR. SAMI VENKATACHALAM CHETTI :—" I think, Sir, it has been the practice even with regard to token motions that motions for larger amounts should be put first. I take it from the ruling which you have given on the last occasion that you will only allow token motions of Rs. 100 to be put first. My motion is certainly not a token motion but is for a substantial cut."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" Yes, I agree that your motion is for a substantial cut. That is why I put the token motion first. Then I shall come to the substantial cut."

" I shall now put first Mr. Krishnan Nayar's motion. In case it is carried, I have simply to put the question again that the grant already reduced by Rs. 100 be further reduced by the amount indicated in the second motion."

The token motion of Diwan Bahadur M. Krishnan Nayar was put to the House and adopted.

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" I now put the second motion to the House. Since it is an item of a grant, I think the House has got the right, according to the Act as well as the Rules, to vote down the item. It amounts to voting down the item, and therefore I put the question to the House."

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The motion of Mr. Sani Venkatachalam Chetti was then put to the House. A poll was demanded by the hon. Mr. Marjoribanks, and it was taken with the following result:—

Ayes.

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| 1. Mr. Sani Venkatachalam Chetti. | 20. Mr. J. A. Saldanha. |
| 2. „ S. Satyamurti. | 21. „ C. Obi Reddi. |
| 3. „ C. V. Venkataramana Ayyangar. | 22. „ Parasurama Rao Pantulu. |
| 4. „ T. Adinarayana Chettiyar. | 23. „ U. Ramaswami Ayyar. |
| 5. „ P. Anjaneyulu. | 24. „ J. Ramasomayajulu. |
| 6. „ K. Koti Reddi. | 25. „ P. Bhaktavatsala Nayudu. |
| 7. „ S. Muttaiyya Mudaliyar. | 26. Sriman Biswanath Das Mahasayo. |
| 8. „ P. C. Venkatapati Raju. | 27. Mr. A. Kaleswara Rao. |
| 9. „ P. Siva Rao. | 28. „ R. Srinivasa Ayyangar. |
| 10. „ C. S. Govindaraja Mudaliyar. | 29. Syed Ibrahim Sahib Bahadur. |
| 11. „ G. Harisaravottama Rao. | 30. Mr. K. S. Sivasubrahmanya Ayyar. |
| 12. „ C. N. Muthuranga Mudaliyar. | 31. „ V. Kameswara Rao Nayudu. |
| 13. „ Abdul Hamid Khan Sahib. | 32. „ L. K. Tulasiram. |
| 14. „ K. V. R. Swami. | 33. „ K. R. Karant. |
| 15. „ K. P. V. S. Muhammad Meera Ravattar. | 34. „ K. Krishnaawami Nayakar. |
| 16. „ D. Narayana Raju. | 35. „ K. Madhavan Nayar. |
| 17. „ M. Narayana Rao. | 36. „ C. Venkatarangam Nayudu. |
| 18. „ B. S. Mallaiyya. | 37. „ B. Venkataratnam. |
| 19. „ C. Marudavanam Pillai. | 38. „ M. A. Manikkavelu Nayakar. |

Noes.

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| 1. The hon. Sir C. P. Ramaswami Ayyar. | 29. Mr. S. Subrahmanya Mooppanar. |
| 2. „ Mr. N. E. Marjoribanks. | 30. „ S. Venkayya. |
| 3. „ Khan Bahadur Muhammad Uman Sahib Bahadur. | 31. „ S. Arpudaswami Udayar. |
| 4. „ Mr. T. E. Moir. | 32. The Zamindar of Gollapalli. |
| 5. „ Diwan Bahadur B. N. Arogyaswami Mudaliyar. | 33. Mr. G. Premayya. |
| 6. „ Mr. A. Ranganatha Mudaliyar. | 34. Syed Tajudin Sahib Bahadur. |
| 7. „ Dr. P. Subbarayan. | 35. Swami A. Sahajananda. |
| 8. Mr. T. R. Venkatarama Sastri. | 36. Mr. C. R. T. Congreve. |
| 9. „ J. F. Hall. | 37. Sir Alexander MacDougall. |
| 10. „ P. L. Moore. | 38. Mr. J. Smith. |
| 11. „ H. Tireman. | 39. Rao Sahib L. C. Guruswami. |
| 12. „ G. T. Boag. | 40. Mr. V. I. Muniswami Pillai. |
| 13. „ V. Pandrang Row. | 41. „ B. Ramachandra Reddi. |
| 14. „ S. H. Slater. | 42. The Raja of Panagal. |
| 15. „ C. B. Cotterell. | 43. Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. Patro. |
| 16. Khan Bahadur Muhammad Bazi-ul-lah Sahib Bahadur. | 44. Diwan Bahadur M. Krishnan Nayar. |
| 17. Rao Sahib R. Srinivasan. | 45. Khan Bahadur S. K. Abdul Bazaack Sahib Bahadur. |
| 18. Mr. H. B. Ari Gowder. | 46. Mr. P. T. Rajan. |
| 19. „ A. B. Shetti. | 47. „ T. K. Chidambaranatha Mudaliyar. |
| 20. „ J. Bheemayya. | 48. „ S. N. Dorai Raja. |
| 21. „ V. Ch. John. | 49. Rao Sahib S. Ellappa Chettiyar. |
| 22. Mr. Muppal Nayar of Kavalappara alias Kamaran Raman. | 50. Diwan Bahadur P. C. Ethirajulu Nayudu. |
| 23. „ R. Nagan Gowda. | 51. Muhammad Kadir Mohidin Sahib Bahadur. |
| 24. Subadar Major S. A. Nanjappa Bahadur. | 52. Diwan Bahadur S. Kumaraswami Reddiyar. |
| 25. Mr. C. R. Parthasarathi Ayyangar. | 53. T. M. Moidoo Sahib Bahadur. |
| 26. „ N. Siva Raj. | 54. Rao Bahadur B. Muniswami Nayudu. |
| 27. „ M. V. Gangadhara Siva. | 55. Mr. K. Ramachandra Padayachi. |
| 28. „ W. P. A. Soundara Pandia Nadar. | 56. „ K. Sarabha Reddi. |
| | 57. The Zamindar of Mirzaspuram. |

Neutral.

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| 1. The Zamindar of Seithur. | 5. Mr. Chavadi K. Subramanya Pillai. |
| 2. Mr. Mahmud Sahammad Sahib. | 6. „ S. V. Venavudia Goundar. |
| 3. „ Ramanatha Goenka. | 7. „ K. R. Venkatarama Ayyar. |
| 4. „ T. C. Srinivasa Ayyangar. | 8. „ K. Krishnan. |

Ayes 38 : *Noes* 57 : *Neutral* 8. The motion was lost.

[15th March 1927]

Sriman BISWANATH DAS Mahasayo :—" Sir, I beg to move—

'that the allotment of Rs. 24,78,400 for Survey and Settlement be reduced by Rs. 100.'

" Sir, my idea in tabling this motion is to discuss the necessity of taking up survey and settlement operations in the Bodakhimidi estate, Ganjam district, now under the Court of Wards.

" This estate has come under the Court of Wards administration since 1922. More than four years have elapsed and Government have not yet taken up the work of surveying the estate. Under section 164 of the Estates Land Act, it is a duty vested in the Government that when a certain estate comes under the Court of Wards, they have to undertake the survey and settlement operations of that estate. Sir, the estate is in affluent circumstances as may be seen from the report of the Court of Wards."

The hon. Mr. N. E. MARJORIBANKS :—" Sir, to save time, may I explain to the hon. Member that the survey has been taken up."

Sriman BISWANATH DAS Mahasayo :—" It has not been taken up and I shall be glad to withdraw the motion if it is to be taken up."

The hon. Mr. N. E. MARJORIBANKS :—" It has been provided for in the Budget."

Sriman BISWANATH DAS Mahasayo :—" May I know whether it is for survey alone or both for survey and settlement ?"

The hon. Mr. N. E. MARJORIBANKS :—" Survey alone has so far been provided. Applications have not yet been received for settlement."

Sriman BISWANATH DAS Mahasayo :—" In that case, Sir, I beg to withdraw the motion."

The motion was, by leave, withdrawn.

* Mr. MAHMUD SCHAMNAD SAHIB :—" I move—

'To reduce the allotment of Rs. 24,78,400 for Survey and Settlement by 100.' (To discuss the undesirability of the resurvey of South Kanara district)

1-30
p.m.

" The survey of South Kanara was completed about 30 years ago and the expenses of survey were collected from the ryots. The survey was made not at the instance of the people nor for their good, but for the benefit of Government to get increased revenue. Accordingly, the Government got a large amount of revenue.

" Now, what justification is there then for the Government to levy from the people the charges of resurvey again ? Although the Government had village officers, talaiyaris, etc., the burden of maintaining the survey marks was thrown on the poor ryots. If survey stones were destroyed even by causes beyond the ryots' control, such as floods, etc., the ryots were made to pay the cost of replacing the survey stones. If there were mistakes in the survey of some parts of South Kanara, it was the duty of the Government to get those mistakes rectified at the expense of the Government, through their karnams or some other agency.

15th March 1927] [Mr. Mahmud Sahamnad Sabib]

"Now, after collecting assessment according to that wrong survey, as they say, for so many years, they come forward and say that there are mistakes in the old survey and that they want to correct them at the expense of the ryots. Is there any justification for not correcting the mistakes then and there as soon as they were found out, and for allowing them to accumulate? Is there any justification for the Government charging the cost of the resurvey upon the ryots for which they are not responsible? The mistakes, if any, were made by the survey party engaged by Government for surveying; even for that the ryots have paid once. With what grace can they charge the people again with the cost of the resurvey?"

"Now, what are the mistakes they want to rectify? There may be some bends or straight lines here and there where there ought to have been straight lines or bends. These do not make much difference and hence don't matter much. Almost all the serious mistakes have already been corrected by having recourse to law courts, etc. Now, some portions of the Kasaragod taluk have already been measured and surveyed and they have now begun with some other taluks of the South Kanara district. Let us see what is the effect of this resurvey. Has it improved matters? No. It has unsettled everything. Innumerable causes of litigation have been brought into existence. Separate holdings have been clubbed together and pattas have been issued jointly. If there were no visible marks on the land they had the former plans and measurements. They could have acted upon these and issued separate pattas. They have acted most recklessly; they have not consulted the revenue officers; they have not consulted the village officers, neither the owners nor the former pattadars. They have issued pattas to whomsoever they pleased, the only consideration being their private gratification. I personally know several such instances. In several cases tenants have been given pattas; and some whom even law courts have declined to give pattas have been given pattas. Any man who could approach the surveyors has been given a patta.

"I therefore say that further survey operations should be stopped and no survey charges should be collected from the ryots and even those that have been collected already should be refunded to them."

* Mr. A. B. SHETTY :—"Mr. President, I find from the hon. the Revenue Member's reply to the interpellation of Mr. Saldanha that resurvey would not be done unless it was found absolutely necessary in the interests of the ryots. Further, in his reply to the budget demand on the same matter he said last year that, so far as he could foresee, it would not be necessary in the rest of the district, that is, in taluks other than Kasaragod. The Landholders' Association at Puttur held a meeting for this purpose and they have expressed strong disapproval of the resurvey of the district. Three meetings of the ryots of the Mangalore taluk were called by the Divisional Officer at Mangalore, Moolky and Bantwal, and these also expressed strong disapproval of the resurvey proposal. People fear that resurvey would upset their long established possessions and that it would give rise to unnecessary litigation. In view of these facts, I trust that the hon. the Revenue Member will see that no resurvey of the rest of the district is carried out."

The House then adjourned for lunch.

[15th March 1927]

After Lunch (2-30 p.m.).**V****AMENDMENT TO STANDING ORDER No. 40.**

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" I have to inform the House that the following six gentlemen were nominated for election to the Select Committee to consider the amendments to Standing Order No. 40 proposed by Mr. J. A. Saldanha :—

Mr. S. Satyamurti.
 „ S. Muttayya Mudaliyar.
 „ J. A. Saldanha.
 „ T. O. Srinivasa Ayyangar.
 „ K. R. Karant.

Diwan Bahadur S. Kumaraswami Reddiyar.

" As the number of candidates nominated for election is equal to the number of vacancies to be filled, namely, six, I hereby declare the above-mentioned gentlemen to be duly elected under Regulation II (4) of the Regulations for the holding of elections by means of the single transferable vote.

" I have already nominated Diwan Bahadur M. Krishnan Nayar, a Chairman of the Council, to serve on the Committee under Standing Order 77."

DEMAND I—LAND REVENUE—cont.

The debate on Mr. Mahmud Schamnad Sabib's motion was resumed.

* The hon. Mr. N. E. MARJORIBANKS :—" Sir, the hon. Member who spoke first discussed this question from two points of view. One was that he said that there was no need for resurvey, and the other was—I did not quite catch what he said—I think, that the work was being done badly. As regards the latter contention that the work is badly done, it is a matter that ought to be enquired into and corrected. Whatever doubt there may be as to whether resurvey is necessary or not, there cannot possibly be any doubt that the work should not be badly done, and if he were to give me some information which he said he had, I shall only be too glad to enquire into it. As regards the second question whether resurvey should be made or not, as I indicated before, we are prima facie not at all anxious to spend money in this way, and the matter is under consideration only on account of the reports that the existing plans are such that you cannot locate changes and transfers from one ryot to another or land acquisitions and such other changes that the Revenue Rules require to be recorded. That is a matter which all will agree has to be investigated carefully. We have so far only the opinions of the Collectors and resurvey officers on the point, and I am very anxious to get the opinions of some of the Members of this Council who come from the district, if they will look into the matter themselves. I hope to satisfy myself on the subject before the Government come to any decision on the matter. At present there is no order that there should be any resurvey except in the Kasaragod taluk."

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* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" I believe the House is ready for the question."

Mr. MAHMUD SCHAMNAD SAHIB :—" May I speak in reply, Sir ? "

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" I do not think that on motions like this there is a right of reply, at any rate according to the practice in this House."

The motion was put and declared lost.

Mr. Mahmud Sahib Schamnad demanded a poll, and the House divided as follows :—

Ayes.

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| 1. Mr. H. B. Ari Gowder. | 23. Mr. D. Narayana Raju. |
| 2. " A. Balakrishna Shetti. | 24. " M. Narayana Rao. |
| 3. " Mahmud Schamnad Sahib. | 25. " B. S. Mallayya. |
| 4. " W. P. A. Soundara Pandia Nafar. | 26. " J. A. Saldanha. |
| 5. " T. C. Srinivasa Ayyangar. | 27. " C. Ubi Reddi. |
| 6. " Chavadi K. Subrahmanya Pillai. | 28. " A. Parasurama Rao. |
| 7. " S. V. Vanavudaiya Goundar. | 29. " U. Ramaswami Ayyar. |
| 8. " K. R. Venkatarama Ayyar. | 30. " C. Ramasomayajulu. |
| 9. " Sami Venkatachalam Chetti. | 31. Sriman Biswanath Das Mahasayo. |
| 10. " S. Satyamurti. | 32. Mr. A. Kaleswara Rao. |
| 11. " C. V. Venkataramana Ayyangar. | 33. " R. Srinivasa Ayyangar. |
| 12. " T. Adinarayana Chettiyar. | 34. " Syed Ibrahim Sahib. |
| 13. " P. Anjaneyulu. | 35. " K. S. Sivasubrahmanya Ayyar. |
| 14. " K. Koti Reddi. | 36. " V. Kameswara Rao Nayudu. |
| 15. " S. Muttayya Mudaliyar. | 37. " L. K. Tulaciram. |
| 16. " P. C. Venkatapathi Raju. | 38. " K. R. Karant. |
| 17. " P. Siva Rao. | 39. " K. V. Krishnaswami Nayakar. |
| 18. " C. S. Govindaraja Mudaliyar. | 40. " K. Madhavan Nayar. |
| 19. " G. Harisarvottama Rao. | 41. " C. Venkatarangam Nayudu. |
| 20. " C. N. Muthuranga Mudaliyar. | 42. " B. Venkataiahnam. |
| 21. " Abdul Hamid Khan. | 43. " C. Gupta Menon. |
| 22. " K. V. R. Swami. | 44. " M. A. Munikkavelu Nayakar. |

Noes.

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| 1. The hon. Sir C. P. Ramaswami Ayyar. | 24. Mr. N. Siva Raj. |
| 2. " Mr. N. E. Marjoribanks. | 25. " M. V. Gangadhar Siva. |
| 3. " Khan Bahadur Muhammad Usman Sahib Bahadur. | 26. " S. Subrahmanya Moopanar. |
| 4. " Mr. T. E. Moir. | 27. " S. Venkiah. |
| 5. " Diwan Bahadur R. N. Arogya-swami Mudaliyar. | 28. " K. Krishnan. |
| 6. " Mr. A. Ranganatha Mudaliyar. | 29. " S. Arpudawami Udayar. |
| 7. " Dr. P. Subbarayan. | 30. " G. Premayya. |
| 8. Mr. T. R. Venkatarama Sastriyar. | 31. " Syed Tajudin Sahib. |
| 9. " J. F. Hall. | 32. Swami A. S. Sahajananda. |
| 10. " P. L. Moore. | 33. Rao Sahib R. Srinivasan. |
| 11. " H. Tireman. | 34. Mr. L. C. Guruswami. |
| 12. " G. T. Boag. | 35. " V. I. Muniswami Pillai. |
| 13. " V. Pandrang Row. | 36. " B. Ramachandra Reddi. |
| 14. " S. H. Slater. | 37. Raja of Panagal. |
| 15. " O. B. Cotterell. | 38. Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. Patro. |
| 16. Khan Bahadur Muhammad Basl ul-lah Sahib Bahadur. | 39. Mr. Abdul Razack Sahib. |
| 17. Mr. J. Bhagamayya. | 40. " P. T. Rajan. |
| 18. " V. Ch. John. | 41. " S. N. Dorai Raja. |
| 19. " B. Nagan Gowda. | 42. Rao Sahib S. Ellappa Chettiyar. |
| 20. Subedar Major S. A. Nanjappah Bahadur. | 43. Diwan Bahadur P. C. Ethirajulu Nayudu. |
| 21. Rao Bahadur O. M. Narayanan Nambudripad. | 44. Mr. Khadir Mohittin Sahib. |
| 22. Mr. C. R. Parthasarathi Ayyangar | 45. Diwan Bahadur S. Kumaraswami Reddiyar. |
| 23. " Ramasatha Goenta. | 46. Rao Bahadur B. Muniswami Nayudu. |
| | 47. Mr. K. Ramachandra Padayachi. |
| | 48. Zamindar of Mirzapuram. |
| | 49. Diwan Bahadur M. Krishnan Nayar. |

44 hon. Members voted for the motion and 49 against. The motion was lost.

[15th March 1927]

* **MR. SAMI VENKATACHALAM CHETTI** :—“ Sir, as there is a large number of motions of which notice has been given by Members belonging to my party, I would like to make a submission that, so far as my party is concerned, the following items may be considered to have been withdrawn, with your permission. The Nos. are 16, 19, 21, 22, 26, 27, 28, 30, 31, 39, 40, 42, 43, 44, 45, 46, 47, 48, 51, 52, 53, 54, 55, 56, 57, 58, 65, 67, 68, 74, 75, 77, 79, 81, 82, 84, 85 to 90, 92, 93, 96, 101, 103, 104, 106, 108, 109, 111, 113, 117 to 120, 124, 127, 128, 131 to 133, 135 to 140, 141, 142, 145, 146.”

2-45
P.M.

* **MR. R. SRINIVASA AYYANGAR** :—“ Mr. President, Sir, I beg leave to move

‘ To reduce the allotment of Rs. 2,300 for pay of officers by Rs. 100.’

“ The object of my tabling this motion is to express in strong language our disapproval of the attitude of the Government in turning down a resolution passed by this Council somewhere about April 1925 and to compel the Government, if I may, to reconsider their decision, to show a gesture and eventually to appoint a committee to meet the grievances of the non-gazetted officers. It fell to my lot, Sir, on the 31st March 1925, to move a resolution in the following terms so far as these non-gazetted officers are concerned. That resolution runs as follows :—‘ That this Council recommends to the Government that a committee of two elected members of this Council, two officers of Government and two representatives of the Non-gazetted Officers’ Association be appointed to report on the organization, conditions of service and other matters relating to various branches of the non-gazetted Government services’. That resolution, for the information of the House I may say, was carried by an absolutely large and, if I may say so, overwhelming majority. In the course of the debate on the resolution I also stressed among other things the poor condition of the non-gazetted officers, the poor pay they were getting, the poor increment scale that has been set up for them and also the invidious distinction that has been existing between department and department and service and service, and also the highly unsatisfactory manner in which their pay has been fixed without taking into consideration their past service. I also laid stress upon the creation of a system of Provident Fund in view of bettering their prospects. That was also supported by very many members of this House. The then Finance Member in a temperate and sympathetic speech adverted to two circumstances as standing in the way of effect being given to my resolution. He stated that he would be anxious to know the feeling of the House on this matter. At page 1057, Volume XV of the Proceedings of the Legislative Council this is what he stated :

‘ Similar improvements in pay and prospects were given to all grades of non-gazetted servants ; but the cost was so great that the Government could not face it without making sure of the support of the Council. It has been the main cause of financial stringency from which we have been suffering ever since and of the great rise in expenditure which has been the substance of most of the charges against the Government in the last three or four years.’

“ Lower down at page 1061 this is what he stated :

‘ They are willing to accept any reasonable suggestion and will of course be more ready to improve the position of the non-gazetted services if they feel that it is the unanimous opinion of the Council that that is a proper object on which to spend money if money is available.’

“ Now, Sir, the object of my bringing this motion is to reconvey to the Government our strong feeling in this matter and also to impress upon the Government the necessity of Government devising ways and means to better

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their condition. After all, the resolution which the Government refused to accept was of a very modest character. It did not commit the Government to any policy; what it recommended was the constitution of a committee. In answer to a question put on more than one occasion two important reasons were given. One was the financial condition of the Government which stood in the way of the Government accepting the motion. To-day it was stated by the hon. the Revenue Member that the Government were not prepared to give more pay to their servants. Can it be seriously contended that these non-gazetted officers are a contented lot? Are not the Government aware of the large number of meetings that have been held by these non-gazetted officers and the various resolutions passed in so many conferences which they have flooded the Government with. I accuse the Government of indifference. They are lacking in their duty to their subordinates who if I may say so form the regular infantry in this huge army of the Madras Governmental administration. These people are very poorly paid. The poor pay carries with it the inevitable incidents of demoralization. It not only demoralises the person who receives the pay, but also the person who comes in contact with person who receives the pay. And after all the attitude of the Government on this resolution is unreasonable. It has been said on the floor of this House that the executive half is an irresponsible body. Let me add that the present instance shows once again that it is not only irresponsible but is also irresponsible to any stress of public opinion. Moreover, what did the resolution want? It only wanted a committee and Government have absolutely no business to anticipate the recommendations of the committee and to treat with contempt the very conception of the committee. What right have they to forestall their judgment? All I would submit is that a committee of this House or a mixed committee of officials and non-officials with power to investigate the question be appointed to suggest ways and means which may have the effect of saving the face of the Government from the charge that the Government have been very niggardly in the treatment of their own subordinates with the result that we find everywhere traces and even evidence of corruption which does not redound to the credit of this Government. In this Presidency there is an association known as 'Non-gazetted Officers' Association,' which is nearly 28,000 strong. Can the Government afford to look at it, I mean the lot of these people, with supreme unconcern? They are the mainstay of the Government and on them the brunt of the work falls and without them it would be impossible for the higher officers to carry on the administration. They form the brain of the services. The superior officers will bear testimony to the fact that in the general administration itself the non-gazetted officers play by no means an insignificant part. He puts up notes, takes references, discusses the matter and if I am not very much mistaken he puts the higher officers in the right track whenever the new officer happened to be ignorant of the situation. It will be open to the Government on receipt of the recommendations of the committee to accept it or reject it in whole or in part . . . It will be up to the Government to go to the rescue of the non-gazetted services. But if the recommendations are of a reactionary character, nobody will blame the Government for turning it down. One reason advanced is that the province is not in a prosperous state. Government has since recovered from the shock and the financial pendulum has begun to

[Mr. R. Srinivasa Ayyangar] [15th March 1927]

swing forward. There was a remission of 126 lakhs last year and in March 1926 there was a further remission of 57 lakhs. This time the promised remission comes to 165 lakhs and I have not the slightest doubt judging from the vote of the Assembly on the ratio question, what has been promised will be a *fait accompli*. In that state of things, it will not be open to the Government to come forward with the plea of financial stringency. There is money available, and there is no reason why the case of these men should not receive a sympathetic consideration. It may be stated 'it is none of your concern to devise ways and means to better the condition of our servants.' My answer is they are not only your servants; they are as much our servants. So long as you do not improve their prospects in the various directions indicated in my speech of the 31st March 1925, I do not think it will be open to the Government to say that they are treating their servants fairly. Therefore, without more words, I would submit that the time has come for the Government to give up their obstinacy, to make a real gesture, to extend the right hand of fellowship, and by their conduct and action also to remove the strong under-current of irritation not easily translatable into language which we come across in the large number of unfortunate, poorly paid, poorly clothed, and poorly half-fed non-gazetted officers. With these words, I commend the resolution for the acceptance of the House."

* Diwan Bahadur M. KRISHNAN NAYAR :—" I have great pleasure in associating myself with all the observations that fell from my friend Mr. R. Srinivasa Ayyangar. These non-gazetted officers form the real backbone of the administration. We have heard a great deal in this Council on many occasions about their grievances. The utterances on behalf of Government have always been more or less sympathetic. But these utterances, we do not find, have been translated into action. The answer given by the Government for not accepting the recommendations of this Council relating to these non-gazetted officers is want of funds. They do not find any difficulty in finding enough funds to apply the recommendations of the Lee Commission. (Hear, hear.) It is only when the question of these comparatively low-paid clerks who, as I said, really form the backbone of administration, comes up for consideration, the question of finance comes in. I submit it is altogether an unjustifiable position. The Government have now funds which they do not know how to spend. There is the windfall of 165 lakhs and a portion at least of this amount may be utilized in meeting the legitimate request and aspirations of these hard-worked officers. I have very great pleasure in supporting this motion."

* Mr. K. KOTI REDDI :—" Mr. President, Sir, I do not think it is necessary for me to add any more to what has already fallen from the lips of my hon. Friends. The case of the non-gazetted officers has been well considered deserving. Their claims have been recognized and the Government have been only saying that they have no funds. I believe, Sir, the windfall that has been referred to by my hon. Friend is being claimed by various claimants. There were the village officers and now there are the non-gazetted officers. My feeling in this matter is that if the Government in its Transferred Half is really serious about making an experiment towards total prohibition, that amount ought to be ear-marked for the reduction of revenue from abkari. At the same time, they ought to try to relieve the distress of the non-gazetted officers. The case of the clerks who get a small sum of Rs. 20 or Rs. 30 in

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[Mr. K. Koti Reddi]

ordinary towns is really very difficult. An increase of Rs. 10 will relieve to a considerable extent their distress. The lot of the process-servers in the munsifs' courts and the district courts is very hard. They seem to get only Rs. 20. I do not think it is right to give them only that pay. One thing has to be remembered. Some of these people ought to have been depending upon mamuls. That income has been considerably reduced now and is bound to be so as people become more advanced and enlightened. Unless we increase their pay, there will be other forms of corruption which I believe this House is practically against. Some thing must be done to increase the pay of the non-gazetted services. With these words, I commend this motion."

* Mr. O. R. PARTHASARATHI AYYANGAR :—" Sir, when the pay of the 3 p. gazetted officers was raised, was it because that they had not enough of means to live upon, or was it because that they were so well organized that they were able to put up a formidable opposition, or was it because their influence could not be ignored? Is it that in the case of the clerks they were neglected, because they had already plenty of money, or because their voices could not be heard, and their claims were thus ignored with impunity? These are the people who are drudging in taluk offices from morning to evening and on whom the brunt of the work falls. Even when they organized themselves, it was some times put down. I cannot see any reason why the reasonable claims of these ill-paid people should be overlooked by the Government. Because they have not got a sufficient income to live on, they expose themselves to several diseases, suffering and even death. Those who have plenty already are given more by the Government. It is a thing which is unknown in any civilized country.

"Again, instead of giving them pensions, they may be given a provident fund. It will give them a substantial income on which they may rely in their later days, instead of on the miserable pension that they might get. This may be done without incurring any additional expenditure. Probably a recommendation has gone to the Government of India on this matter. If this matter is given immediate attention to, it will relieve to some extent the suffering of the non-gazetted officers.

"Those who were getting already high salaries got the advantages out of the Lee Commission recommendations. Then, why should not the pay of these poor non-gazetted officers be raised a little, so that they may free themselves from suffering and disease? I think it is quite necessary to pay due attention to the condition of these people who are in the lower ranks and some consideration shown to them to raise their status. Therefore, I suggest that as one of the steps for doing it, the provident fund system be instituted for them."

* Rao Sahib S. ELLAPPA CHETTIYAR :—" Mr. President, Sir, I beg to support this motion. In doing so, I want to say a few words. The present salary of these non-gazetted officers is quite inadequate to make both ends meet. I know many memorials and resolutions of their associations have been received by the Government, and I think no action has yet been taken to improve the condition of the non-gazetted officers. I remember this House also has passed a resolution to the effect that their pay should be increased. In this connection, I may not be out of place if I mention that with the scanty

[Mr. S. Ellappa Chettiyar]

[15th March 1927]

pay they are now getting they will not be able to accommodate themselves in decent houses and take out a decent livelihood. It is not fair for the Government to leave these unfortunate people in the same condition in which they are now. Especially in places like Salem, where there is famine almost all the years, it is very difficult for them to get on with their present pay.

“ With these few words, I support the motion.”

* Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—“ Mr. President, Sir, a fresh starting point is given to us for discussing this question from a reply given by Government last September to a question put by me. The hon. the Revenue Member referred in his reply to a resolution passed in August last and to another resolution which is printed as an appendix in volume XXXII, page 81, of the Proceedings of the Legislative Council. The best thing, Sir, I can do is to reply *seriatim*, if I can find time enough, to each of the contentions raised in G.O. No. 805, Public, dated 26th August 1926.

“ First of all, Sir, as to the starting pay they tell us that a Salaries Committee was appointed in 1919 and they fixed the initial pay of the clerical appointments to start with to be Rs. 35, and it was considered very generous. Not only that, they go further in their generosity by saying that the Government see no reason to differ from the conclusions arrived at by the Salaries Committee, that on the other hand prices have fallen considerably since the starting pay was fixed, and that they contemplate even a reduction from Rs. 35, not to speak of the increase that we are fighting for. Government, however, in their grand generosity have decided to maintain the scales both in the Madras City and in the mufassal. Now, gentlemen, . . . ”

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—“ Order, order. The hon. Member should address the Chair.”

* Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—“ I am sorry, Sir, it is a slip. What I urge is, Sir, that we must bear in mind that though the prices might have fallen the standard of living among the non-gazetted officers has considerably increased and is increasing, because the qualifications expected from these officials are now much higher. Formerly, a school-final young man can easily get an appointment. Now, even graduates find it difficult to get employment, and a man who has spent a large fortune in graduating himself is expected to maintain a higher standard of living. So, as against the slight decrease of prices (which I do not believe, because, there is a decrease of prices in some respects, and there is real increase of prices in other respects, so that the prices have maintained themselves on a high scale since 1919 without any considerable reduction on the whole, and the state of things is as before) the standard of living has very much increased. Having regard to this fact, Sir, we must urge that the pay of these officials should be settled by a committee. How far it should be increased is a point which should be settled by the committee. There are other points, to which I will not refer now, which can be discussed by the committee to be appointed, as, for instance, the provident fund. It is stated in the Government Order that the question of substituting a provident fund for the pension system is under correspondence with the Secretary of State. I should like to know what orders the Secretary of State has passed on this question. I suppose

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Government have recommended this prayer of the non-gazetted officers, and early orders will be passed on this point.

"Now, to the resolution that was passed on the proposal of Mr. R. Srinivasa Ayyangar, I proposed an amendment, and that amendment was also passed. I refer here to the case of the unpassed non-gazetted officers. Their case has been treated by the Government in a very unfair manner. As I have argued last year also on that very occasion, the Government once upon a time was really very fair to them. They once thought that an unpassed man who was considered fit for appointment or confirmation must be treated on a par with the passed man. Accordingly, in the year 1921 and again in 1922, they passed orders placing unpassed men, who had been exempted from the Examination rules and other tests, on an equal footing with the passed men. All the high officers, the Collectors and District Judges supported by the Accountant-General, said that the Government Order meant that the increments under the time-scale of pay should be allowed to them, and they got automatically promotions or increments, provided of course they were fit and competent, for a couple of years. Suddenly, one Revenue Member awoke to the fact that a mistake has been committed in the Secretariat and that Government had been over-generous. The Revenue Board then expressed the opinion that that was all wrong, and Collectors were ordered to make the clerks refund the increased pay which had been granted to them by the Collectors, and which was not objected to by the Accountant-General. Two years after they have enjoyed their salaries they were told to refund them. At last the hon. the Revenue Member has applied his head to it, and some orders have been issued." (The hon. Member then resumed his seat as his time was up.)

* The hon. Mr. N. E. MAJORIBANKS :—"I suppose you must regard this 3-15
as another nation-building demand (laughter), but in this case I am sorry p.m.
that the hon. Member who just preceded me had not a longer time to speak, as he would doubtless have repeated the several paragraphs of the Government Order with which he began, and thus saved me the trouble of speaking at all. That order—I will not inflict the whole of it on the House—points out that the cost of the non-gazetted staff, before the revision of 1921 amounted to Rs. 145 lakhs a year, and the salaries were then raised to the total of 231 lakhs a year, and being on an incremental scale, they are still increasing. (Mr. C. V. Venkataramana Ayyangar: In the same way as those of the higher officers?) The salaries of higher officers did not and do not increase to anything so much. (Mr. C. V. Venkataramana Ayyangar: 'Proportionate to the number.') Proportionate to the number they do not. In fact, many get nothing at all. (Laughter.) I am one of them. (Renewed laughter.) The cost of the extra recurring expenditure incurred on the non-gazetted staff is about a crore per annum. In the beginning the increase was 60 per cent. We have examined the increase in the case of each branch of service and it varies from an increase of 29 per cent in the case of inspectors of police to 99 per cent in the case of sub-registrars. Now, I do not think anybody can deny that that is a considerable increase. The revised scales based on the investigation of a committee that was almost entirely non-official, and the starting rate recommended by that committee was raised by Government. We are always prepared to consider any specific grievances. We have received numerous memorials from various associations and individuals, and I have examined them very carefully to see if any specific grievance

[Mr. N. E. Marjoribanks]

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was stated which could form the basis of enquiry or investigation, but I have not been able to find anything except that they want more pay. That is a complaint which most of us share. (Laughter.) However much we get we like to have more. (Renewed laughter.) I do not quite know what good could be done by a committee. Every year the budget is larger on account of the annual increments. I do not mean to say that anybody gets enough pay; I do not venture on such a proposition. (Laughter.) But what I do contend is that the present scale is very considerably more than what was paid a few years back; not only that, but much more than the general increase of prices. I am sorry I have not studied the speech which the hon. the Mover of the Resolution made on a previous occasion, or perhaps I might have discovered some grievances there for the basis of an enquiry. But I have confined myself to the memorials from the associations and officials concerned. With the exception of one or two minor matters which were at once attended to, I can find nothing which calls for an enquiry by a committee. The special provident fund, as the previous speaker has said, is being investigated and will possibly be given effect to."

The motion was put and declared lost.

Mr. C. V. Venkataramana Ayyangar demanded a poll and the House divided thus:—

Ayes.

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1. Mr. C. R. Parthasarathi Ayyangar. | 33. Mr. A. Parasurama Rao Pantulu. |
| 2. " W. P. A. Soundarapandiya Nadar. | 34. " U. Ramaswami Ayyar. |
| 3. " T. C. Srinivasa Ayyangar. | 35. " C. Ramaomsayaajulu. |
| 4. " S. V. Vanavudaiya Goundar. | 36. " P. Bhaktavatsulu Nayudu. |
| 5. " K. R. Venkatarama Ayyar. | 37. Sriman Biswanath Das Mahas-yyo. |
| 6. " S. Arpudaswami Udayar. | 38. Mr. A. Kaleswara Rao. |
| 7. Zamindar of Gollapalli. | 39. " R. Srinivasa Ayyangar. |
| 8. Mr. Tajuddin Sahib. | 40. Syed Ibrahim Sahib Bahadur, Nattam |
| 9. Swami A. S. Sahajanandam. | Dubash Kadir Sahib. |
| 10. Rao Sahib R. Srinivasan. | 41. Mr. K. S. Sivasubrahmanya Ayyar. |
| 11. Mr. V. I. Muniswami Pillai. | 42. " V. Kameswara Rao Nayudu. |
| 12. " Sami Venkatachalam Chetti. | 43. " L. K. Tulasiram. |
| 13. " S. Satyamurti. | 44. " K. R. Karant. |
| 14. " C. V. Venkataramana Ayyangar. | 45. " K. V. Krishnaswami Nayakar. |
| 15. " T. Adinarayana Chettiar. | 46. " K. Madhavan Nayar. |
| 16. " P. Anjaneyulu. | 47. " B. Venkataratnam. |
| 17. " K. Koti Reddi. | 48. " M. A. Manikkavelu Nayakar. |
| 18. " S. Muttaiya Mudaliyar. | 49. Raja of Panagil, x.c.r.e. |
| 19. " P. C. Venkatapati Raju | 50. Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. Patro. |
| 20. " P. Siva Rao. | 51. Diwan Bahadur M. Krishnan Nayar. |
| 21. " C. S. Govindaraja Mudaliyar. | 52. Khan Bahadur Abdul Gazeack Sahib Baha- |
| 22. " G. Harisavottama Rao. | dur. |
| 23. " C. N. Muthuranga Mudaliyar. | 53. Mr. T. K. Chidambaranatha Mudaliyar. |
| 24. Abdul Hamid Khan Sahib Bahadur. | 54. Rao Sahib S. Ellappa Chettiar. |
| 25. Mr. K. V. R. Swami. | 55. Diwan Bahadur P. C. Ethirajulu Nayudu. |
| 26. K. P. V. S. Muhammad Meera Ravuttar | 56. Muhammad Khadir Mohideen Sahib Baha- |
| Bahadur. | dur. |
| 27. Mr. D. Narayana Raju. | 57. Diwan Bahadur S. Kumaraswami Reddi- |
| 28. " Mothay Narayana Rao. | yar. |
| 29. " B. S. Mallayya. | 58. Mr. T. M. Moidoo Sahib. |
| 30. " C. Marudavanam Pillai. | 59. Rao Bahadur B. Muniswami Nayudu. |
| 31. " J. A. Saldanha. | 60. Mr. K. Ramachandra Padayachi. |
| 32. " O. Obi Reddi. | 61. " K. Sarabha Reddi. |
| | 62. The Zamindar of Mirzapuram. |

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Noes.

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|--|---|
| 1. The hon. Sir C. P. Ramaswami Ayyar. | 15. Mr. C. B. Cotterell. |
| 2. " Mr. N. E. Marjorikank. | 16. Khan Bahadur Muhammad Bazi-ul-lah |
| 3. " Khan Bahadur Muhammad | Sahib Bahadur. |
| Uman Sahib Bahadur. | 17. Zamindar of Seithur. |
| 4. " Mr. T. E. Moir. | 18. Mr. J. Bheemayya |
| 5. " Diwan Bahadur R. N. Arugya- | 19. " V. Ch. John. |
| swami Mudaliyar. | 20. " K. Muppil Nayar. |
| 6. " Mr. A. Ranganatha Mudaliyar. | 21. " R. Nagan Gowda. |
| 7. " Dr. P. Subbarayan. | 22. Subadar-Major S. A. Nanjappa Bahadur. |
| 8. Mr. T. R. Venkatarama Sastri. | 23. Rao Bahadur O. M. Narayana Nambudri- |
| 9. " J. F. Hall. | pad. |
| 10. " P. L. Moore. | 24. Mr. N. Siva Raj. |
| 11. " H. Tireman. | 25. " M. V. Gangadara Siva. |
| 12. " G. T. Hoag. | 26. " S. Subramanya Mooppanar. |
| 13. " V. Pandrang Rao. | 27. " S. Venkiah. |
| 14. " S. H. Slater. | 28. " K. Krishnan. |

62 hon. Members voted for the motion and 28 against it.

The motion was carried.

* Mr. S. ARPUDASWAMI UDAYAR :—

'To reduce the allotment of Rs. 9,25,300 for taluk establishments, permanent, by Rs. 100.'

"Mr. President, Sir, I have given this motion with a view to discuss the necessity for maintaining a register of all papers received and disposed of or devising some other means of preventing all tampering with taluk records. I am raising a question of administrative detail which compared with the questions of policy and incidence of taxation which the Council was discussing this morning may appear insignificant, but which, practical experience shows, is even more important than large questions of policy, for this reason. It is certainly a distinct advantage for a ryot to know at what rates and on what principle he has to pay his kist instalments and cesses. This sure knowledge of means and results are lacking to him in regard to cases concerned by this motion. Then there is always an element of risk, caprice and uncertainty with regard to an unwritten code of rates, demands or exactions against which the ryot is not able to protect himself. He applies for many things which he is in need of ; he applies for assignment of lands under darkhast rules, he applies for house-sites under house-site rules, he applies for conditional assignment of lands for effecting improvements and thus supplementing his income, or for reaping the full benefit of the improvements already effected. Now each of these attempts starts a series of processes which entail certain expenditure without ensuring a proportionate gain. The ryot finds that non-compliance with the temper and practice of the human instrument results in failure, that the chain of processes snaps somewhere. Government are aware of such happenings, for I read in the evidence given before the Agricultural Commission by Mr. Hood who was sometime Collector of Tanjore, and then Revenue Secretary, and is now Registrar of Co-operation that he admitted that the ryot did not reap the full benefit of the loans he applied for, that only a portion of what he applied for was ultimately realized. Therefore, Sir, I want to press upon the attention of the hon. the Member for Revenue that there should be greater vigilance and closure inspection of these taluk establishments. I speak of course but of one little detail, viz., of registers. It may be that the registers are kept, but what I want the hon. the Member

[Mr. S. Arpudaswami Udayar] [15th March 1927]

for Revenue to lay down is that there should be some means for fixing the responsibility for the disappearance of some records. Therefore all I pray for is that some kind of device or means be adopted with a view to remove the element of risk and uncertainty to which the poor illiterate ryot is exposed."

3-30
p.m.

* The hon. Mr. N. E. MARJORIBANKS :—" Sir, I did not quite catch what the hon. Member wished the Government to do. The rules as regards registering of papers and the maintenance of personal registers by the subordinates concerned make them individually responsible for their custody. As regards the disappearance of papers, there are officials appointed to inspect and generally supervise. The other aspect of the matter on which the hon. Member touched was, to put it plainly, dishonesty on the part of the officers responsible for disbursing loans. The only way to stop that is to encourage those who suffer that way to refrain from that practice, and insist, as we do, upon these loans being as far as possible disbursed by officers who, we hope, will be above such practices. The hon. Member will please examine the rules on the matter and see if there is any flaw there. As regards their irregular working, it is of course possible to make an example of any man whose misconduct is proved. I do not think he has any reason to complain that whenever any such case is brought to the notice of Government it does not punish and punish severely. What he says will no doubt be published abroad and we will remind all officers of the rules which they are expected to observe."

The motion was by leave withdrawn.

* Rao Sahib R. SRINIVASAN :—" I beg to move the motion standing in my name :

'To reduce the allotment of Rs 9,25,300 for permanent establishment by Rs. 100.'

" Sir, out of the 1,000 depressed classes who applied for Revenue Inspectors' places I do not think that more than two were appointed. The post of Revenue Inspector is an important one in the villages. In making these appointments, in spite of the recommendation of the head of the department, somehow or other the lower subordinates of the Government oust out the depressed classes men. I hope, Sir, some arrangement may be made to encourage these men getting such posts. There will be only a few people among the depressed classes fit for such appointments; I request the Government to encourage them. It is only with the object of bringing this to the notice of the Government that I move this motion."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" Does the hon. Member, Mr. Saldanha propose to move his motion along with this motion? If he does not want to have the vote of the House recorded separately on his motion he may speak on it now."

* Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—" Although mine is a separate motion, as I am not going to press it I will speak on this motion only."

" Sir, my object in giving notice of a token motion under this head is to discuss the question of representation of Indian Christians in the services on the footing of educational qualifications and merits as well as on account of their backward and economic conditions. Among the communities who are

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[Mr. J. A. Saldanha]

sacrificing much on the altar of education with men, money and women, our community, the Christian community, stands foremost. We are sacrificing the best of our womanhood on the altar of education, and this can be judged from the fact that some of the best of our girls' schools in this Presidency are in the hands of our women, especially on the west-coast. That will not be a matter for surprise if one knows what is taking place around us even in the city of Madras. Although the condition of our (Christian) community is economically very backward, still we are sacrificing very much for the education of our children. Not only that. We are providing also the men and women necessary for imparting education. Considering this self-sacrifice on our part, what is the reward? I can mention only a very recent notification that has been published as to the result of a selection made by the Staff Selection Board for clerical establishment in this city. I will read out the number of persons belonging to different communities who were selected—

Brahmans 163.

Non-Brahmans 60.

Indian Christians 4.

Depressed classes 4.

Muhammadans 3.

"I wonder, Sir, by what extraordinary process this result was attained. If you bear in mind the educational attainments of certain communities, I am sure a different number would have been selected. I will give you the figures from the Administration Report for 1925-26—the latest available—as to the educational condition of the various communities. The percentage of scholars, both male and female, in this Presidency is this:

Brahmans 14.

Non-Brahmans 4.

Muhammadans 3.

Non-Asiatics and Anglo-Indians 11.

Indian Christians 14.

"Now, having regard to these figures, I want to know, Sir, by what process and on what grounds this result has been arrived at by the Staff Selection Board, viz., 4 Indian Christians only, 60 non-Brahmans and 163 Brahman in this city. Nobody, I think, can charge me with being communalistic in my tendency. (Laughter.) I have been always contending that all communities, whether they be Muhammadans or depressed classes or others, should have equal chances. I have never advocated a case on a communal ground. I stand here, Sir, only on the ground of merit and qualification. (Cries of hear, hear.) Why should a poor and self-sacrificing community like the Indian Christian community be neglected and thrown aside, not only as far as appointments are concerned, but in everything? As I shall show in the debate if I am given an opportunity, everywhere, whether in the local boards, or district boards, or municipalities, irrespective of its claim to appointments, in spite of its sacrifices, it is thrown aside and a great injustice is done to us. No consideration is given to our merit and our high qualifications as well as our sacrifices."

* Mr. S. ARPUDASWAMI UDAYAR:—"Sir, I support the motion of my hon. Friend, Mr. Saldanha. As he himself told the House, he does not take his stand on communalism. It is a matter for regret indeed if a community, the vast majority of which consists of literate and highly qualified members, is not allowed to have its just share in the appointments. It is certainly doing injustice to it if it is not given fair treatment. As my friend has put it, he stands for justice. I too stand for justice. (Cries of hear, hear.) We want fair treatment and no favour.

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"Sir, I too have long felt that there has been some mysterious force at work to deprive the Indian Christians of their just share in all these appointments. On the contrary it seemed to me that the very fact of the Indian Christians being highly qualified, for, in fact, they come next only to the Brahman community, stood in the way of their not being recruited in sufficient number to all these appointments. That is the reason why in all selection grade appointments I find hardly one or two Indian Christians selected. Therefore, Sir, I am glad that this question has been raised. I know that the Members from all sides of the House will lend this motion their support and see that this wrong is righted."

3-45
p.m.

* Mr. MAHMUD SCHAMNAD SAHIB:—"Sir, I rise to support the motion. Time and again, the Muhammadans have been assured by the Government that their interests will be safeguarded and that they would be properly represented in all the services. There was time when Muhammadans were supposed to be backward and not sufficiently educated. I think such excuse can no longer hold good. Now there are sufficient number of men who have qualified themselves for any post under the Government. The policy of the Government and of all the parties, the Swarajya Party as well as other parties, is said to be equal opportunities and chances for all communities. But in practice, I find that Muhammadans do not find a place anywhere. Speaking about my own district, out of hundreds of hands working in the Revenue Department, there are only eight Muhammadans and that too in the subordinate ranks of service. One Mappilla, who is a qualified candidate, has been working in the Revenue Department for the last four years and yet he has not been confirmed. When he appeals to the Collector, the order is 'we are waiting for military hands'. For military hands who might come hereafter and apply, they have reserved all the permanent vacancies. The same is the case with the other departments also. In the Judicial Department and other departments also they do not get their proper share. Therefore I support the motion."

* Mr. SWAMI SAHAJANANDAM then addressed the House in Tamil:—

"ரெவினியூ இன்ஸ்பெக்டர்கள் விஷயமாக சுவாமி சகஜானந்தம் பேசுகையில், கிராமத்து ஜனங்கட்கும் தாலுக் ஆபீஸருக்கும் இடையில் ரெவினியூ இன்ஸ்பெக்டர்களிருக்கிறார்கள். கிராமத்துக் காரியங்கள் தாலுக்காவிற்குப் போகுமுன் ரெவினியூ இன்ஸ்பெக்டர்கள்தான் ஒழுங்குபடுத்துகிறவர்கள். கிராம அதிகாரிகள் சரியானவர்களாயிராவிட்டால் ஆதிதிராவிடர்கட்குப் பலவித இடுக்கண்களேற்படுகின்றன. கிராம அதிகாரிகளை ரெவினியூ இன்ஸ்பெக்டர்கள் திருத்துவார்கள். தாலுகா முழுமையும் தாசில்தார் கவனித்தாலும் பிரக்காவிலுள்ள இன்ஸ்பெக்டர்களைக் கொண்டுதான் தாசில்தார்கள் கிராமங்களைக் கவனிப்பவராகின்றார்கள். ஒவ்வொரு ரெவினியூ இன்ஸ்பெக்டரின் கீழும் சுமார் இருபது முப்பது கிராமங்களிருக்கின்றன. ரெவினியூ இன்ஸ்பெக்டர்கள் மனம் வைத்து கிராம அதிகாரிகள் சரியான முறையில் நடக்கின்றார்களாவெனக் கவனிப்பார்களாயின் ஆதிதிராவிட மக்கட்கு சவுகர்ய மேற்படும். ஆகையால் ரெவினியூ இன்ஸ்பெக்டர் உத்தியோகங்கள் கூடுமானவரை ஆதிதிராவிடர்கட்கே கொடுக்கவேண்டுகிறேன். அதற்கு 'டெக்ஸ்ட்' பாஸ் பண்ணவேண்டும், அன்றியும் ஆளில்லையென்றும்

15th March 1927] [Mr. Swami Sahajanandam]

சமாதானம் சொல்லலாம். நாகப்பட்டணம் சப்மாஜிஸ்ட்ரேட் கோர்ட் எட்கிலார்க்கு வேலையிலிருக்கும் ஸ்ரீமான் சிவராம சுவாமி பிள்ளையவர்கள் டெஸ்ட் பாஸ்பண்ணியிருக்கிறார். அப்படியே ஆங்காங்கும் ஒருவரிருவர்கிலார்க்குளாயிருக்கிறார்கள். அவர்களை தயார்செய்தால் நலமாயிருக்கும். முன்பேசிய கௌரவம் தங்கிய அங்கத்தினர்கள் இந்திய கிறிஸ்தவர்களிலும் முஸ்லீம்களிலும் ரெவினியூ இன்ஸ்பெக்டர்கள் அவ்வளவாக இல்லை யென்கிறார்கள். ஆனால் அவர்களில் சிலரேனும் இருக்கிறார்கள். எங்கள் வகுப்பில் ஒருவருமில்லையெனக் கூறலாம். இவ்விஷயமாக சிரஸ்தார்கள் கவனித்தால் எளிதாக நடக்கலாம். எங்கள் தலைவர் ராவ் சாஹிப் ஸ்ரீனிவாசம் பிள்ளையவர்கள் கூறியபடி எங்கள் பிள்ளைகளை குமாஸ்தாவாகச் சேர்த்து ரெவினியூ இன்ஸ்பெக்டர்களாக்கவேண்டுகிறேன் எனக் கூறிறார்.”

* Mr. S. N. DORAI RAJA :—“ Mr. President, Sir, on behalf of the Kallar community I have great pleasure in supporting this motion. It is not sufficiently represented in the services. We asked for bread and we were given stones. We asked for help because our trouble is purely economic, we were given the Criminal Tribes Act. Sir, we are suffering because we are loyal, for loyalty is at a discount just now. I am not going to take this opportunity to dwell on the disabilities we are suffering under. As our claims have to be considered I support the proposition.”

* Diwan Bahadur P. C. ETHIRAJULU NAYUDU :—“ Sir, I rise to support the motion put forward by the hon. Member. Our party stands for communal justice and equal opportunities for all communities. I whole-heartedly support the motion.”

Mr. A. KALESWARA RAO :—“ Mr. President, Sir, I also want to express my sympathy with the resolution, as a Brahman. We must give opportunities for the depressed classes and for the backward communities to rise high and come to the level of Brahmans and to become better than Brahmans. Therefore even though we may sometimes have to reduce the educational qualifications required, a little bit when necessity arises, we have to encourage the backward communities to have their share in the administration as officials and also as honorary workers. I therefore heartily support the resolution and I hope the House will unanimously pass it.”

* Mr. V. Ch. JOHN :—“ Mr. President, Sir, I also rise to support the motion. I associate myself with all that has been said by the hon. Members Messrs. Saldanha and Arpudaswami Udayar. Instead of appreciating the fact that Indian Christians, poor as they are, have equipped themselves so successfully as the most advanced class in India, viz., the Brahman class, they are being penalized for their advancement. It is a great pity that the Government have taken up this attitude. About 20 years ago when I was a student and when the Indian Christians used to put forward their claims for Government service the Government used to say that there were no Indian Christians sufficiently educated for Government service and that they should be educated higher. Now, we have any number of highly educated persons but the Government do not want to offer them appointments. I do not know what their argument now is. The Government did not give them appointments then because educated persons were not available. Now they are available but they do not appoint them. Both ways, the Indian Christians have suffered. Most of the Indian

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Christians come from the depressed and backward classes. They are economically very poor. They educate their sons and daughters at great expense and sacrifice, and after they are educated, no opportunities are given to them with the result that the educated Indian Christians are disappointed at being thus neglected. I only wish and hope that the Government would appreciate the situation and employ as many Indian Christians as possible in public service to positions to which they are entitled by their educational qualifications.

“One point I wish to impress upon the attention of the Government is that many of the Indian Christians sell their houses and lands and run into debts in order to get themselves educated. As they get education after much sacrifice, they are worse off economically. I hope that the Government would take note of it and see that justice is done to this community also and that it is not penalized for advancement in this direction. It so happens that the Justice Party which stands for communalism, stand up and say that they are for communalism and that they support the motion. The Swarajists also say that the Christians and depressed classes should be represented in the public services. I wonder who is not supporting this motion. I hope that this will result in the Indian Christians being employed in the Government service more than has been the case till now.”

Mr. M. V. GANGADHARA SIVA :—“Mr. President, Sir, every other community is duly represented in the Government service, from the lowest to the highest position, but the members of the depressed classes have shown neither their head nor tail in the Government service. The depressed classes community is still in its infancy and they expect all possible help from all directions. I thank the hon. Members of this House, from every party, for their hearty support for the depressed classes in supporting the motion.”

* Rao Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU :—“I have great pleasure, Sir, to support this proposition. In heralding the new ministry it was proclaimed that communalism was dead. On the other hand, Sir, the discussion shows that communalism is not dead but is very much alive. According to Mr. Saldanha the representation has now to be judged not according to the population but according to the number of educated men in each community. Sir, does the party which calls itself the most advanced party agree with this? It was proclaimed that the Staff Selection Board was appointed with a view to see that men of good educational qualifications and merit were selected. We opposed the formation of that Board on the ground that the constitution of the Board was not satisfactory at all. There was no non-Brahman Hindu member on the Board to represent its claims. On the other hand, we have a Muhammadan representative, we have a Christian representative and we have got Europeans. Our complaint was that there was no non-Brahman Hindu on the Board. With a Christian representing his community, the hon. Member Mr. Saldanha says that his community has not got a proper share. With a Muhammadan representative on the Board, the hon. Member, Mr. Schamnad, says that so far as his community is concerned he is not satisfied.

“We claim communal representation, equal opportunities for all in the public service. I do not know if my hon. Friend Mr. Saldanha is going to say that the Staff Selection Board was acting otherwise than in the best interests and selecting suitable candidates. I really cannot see how it happens that only 4 Indian Christians have been selected as against 163 Brahmans,

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It is stated that the Board has rejected a number of qualified candidates? If so, there is condemnation of the Staff Selection Board. I hope my hon. Friend does mean what he says, i.e., that only four Indian Christians were selected while very many more were available.

"Then, Sir, we were told that there should be equal opportunities for all. Mr. Saldanha says that it should be according to the number of educated men in the community. He says 'Our community is as advanced as the Brahman community.' Therefore if 163 Brahmans were selected for clerkships, why not we have 163 Christians? That is nationalism. It is not seeking for jobs. Because the poor Indian Christians want them, it is consistent with nationalism.

"I submit that certain things which are advocated by one section may be good. I am glad that though we are out, our principles stand. There should be equal opportunities for all. Call it by any name you like. Equal opportunities for all should be recognized. I am glad that, though we are out of office, the Council is upholding our principles. The Deputy Leader of the Swarajya Party said that he has no objection to communal justice. I want to know whether the plea put forward by my hon. Member Mr. Saldanha on his side and by the hon. Member Mr. Schamnad on the other side is not a plea for communal justice. Equal opportunities for all is just what is meant by communal justice. There is no difference between the two theories. Call it by any name you like; there should be equal opportunities for all communities. Therefore we are very glad to support this motion."

* The hon. Mr. N. E. MARJORIBANKS :—"Sir, I feel rather bewildered as to the kind of action I am expected to take.

"Mr. President, Sir, we are told that we ought to enlist in the Govern- 4 p.m.
ment service communities on the footing of educational qualifications and merit. We are also told that we should enlist all the communities and I do not quite know how these two different standards are to be reconciled. I do not see that Mr. Saldanha has any reason for complaint. He says that only four people of his community appear in the list of the Staff Selection Board. Well, Sir, what the Staff Selection Board does in the city of Madras is to call for applicants, to hold a qualifying examination and to place on a list all those applicants who satisfy the examination. It seems to me that the right construction to place on the figures is that the Indian Christian community has advanced so far that only four are applicants for Government service, and that is a matter more for congratulation than for complaint. I do not think that Mr. Saldanha has any reason at all for suggesting that anybody who satisfied the qualifying examination has been rejected. All those who satisfy the examination are put on the list.

"The general policy of Government is to prevent, as far as possible, the monopoly by any one community of Government offices and to give equal opportunities to all. The House has in previous years not been particularly satisfied with the methods which the Government were pursuing, and a committee was appointed to examine and report on the subject. That committee did not submit any report, and I do not know whether a repetition of the process of enquiry would elicit any better result. Nor I do know whether it is the wish of the House that any further attempt in that direction should be made. But so far as the Government are concerned, I can say they are most anxious to give equal opportunities to all communities, provided always there is a minimum standard of efficiency.

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“As regards the first resolution in which the specific post of revenue inspector is asked for, I think the hon. Member is probably unaware that there is no special class of revenue inspectors now, and that that post is held by any clerk of the district establishment who when appointed inspector gets a fixed travelling allowance. A certain number of posts has been added to the district cadre and men are sent out in turn to fill the post of revenue inspector.”

MR. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR :—“They are paid an allowance of Rs. 10.”

* The hon. MR. N. E. MARJORIBANKS :—“I am not sure of that, but I think it is more than Rs. 10. It is Rs. 22-8-0 or so, and whatever it is, that is the system now in force and there is no rule that I know of prohibiting any member of any community from occupying this post, whether he is junior or senior. Of course, in the case of the depressed classes, it will naturally take some time before there are a sufficient number of them in Government service or for any considerable amount of employment to come in their direction. But they are not so badly off. According to the last return there were 55 in appointments between Rs. 35 and Rs. 100. I think most of us can remember the time, not so long ago, when there was not even one, and we all know the difficulties they have to contend against. They may be assured that they have the sympathy of the Government in their efforts to improve their condition. I do not know, Sir, that I can say anything more on this topic.”

The motion was put to the House and declared carried.

* MR. S. ARPUDASWAMI UDAYAR :—“Mr. President, Sir, I beg to move
‘that the allotment of Rs. 9,42,800 for pay of establishments be reduced by Rs. 100.’

“Sir, the administration report for the year 1925-26 shows that the Government have made enquiries.

“‘Enquiries were made,’ they say, ‘in some of the districts where large extents were assigned, to ascertain whether the assignees were really making use of the lands and whether the figures of assignment really represented any advance in their economic status. The result is not disappointing.’ I do not know, Sir, what was the result. I would make a special appeal to the hon. the Revenue Member. He is aware of the peculiar relations that exist in my districts, Tanjore and Trichinopoly, between the depressed classes and their masters, the landlords. The depressed classes are generally considered to be assigned to certain landlords whom they serve hereditarily. Now, it happens that landholders who are well aware of the fact that certain lands have been set apart for being assigned to the depressed classes, try in some cases to bring some under their actual enjoyment by urging their farm hands to apply for them. Thus, nominally lands may belong to the depressed classes while the real enjoyment is with their landlords. I am satisfied with the fact that the Government have made enquiries; but I would request the hon. Revenue Member to devise some method, say, calling for a special report from the village officers or the revenue inspectors, with a view to ascertain whether the lands assigned to the depressed classes are really in their enjoyment or not and whether they derive real benefit out of those assignments. With that object, Sir, I move this motion.”

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* The hon. Mr. N. E. MARJORIBANKS :—" Mr. President, Sir, in regard to the reference by the hon. Member both to the case of grants to the depressed classes as well as to the case of special grants, I may say that there is a special register prescribed which is maintained in the taluk office, and there is also a special entry in the village permanent register; and there are rules to the effect that these entries should be verified and the observance or non-observance of the conditions of the grant should be certified to by the officers at the time of jamabandi. That is the ordinary check which the Revenue department has over the observance of the terms of all special grants. In addition, in the case of grants to depressed classes, there are local Labour officers who are supposed to look after these people particularly, and to bring to notice cases where they alienate land which has been given to them. I do not know whether Government can do more. Perhaps in these matters, if one or two cases were to be established and the grants withdrawn, possibly that might serve as a useful warning. And if the hon. Member would only let the Government have any information he may himself have, I may assure him that I should only be too glad to take action on it."

* Mr. S. ARPUDASWAMI UDAYAR :—" Sir, I do not want to press my motion."

The motion was by leave withdrawn.

* Mr. D. NARAYANA RAJU :—" Mr. President, Sir, I beg to move

'that the allotment of Rs. 12,63,000 for charges of administration be reduced by Rs. 100.'

"I wish to raise the question of the desirability of fixing Nidadavole as the headquarters of the West Godavari district. Sir, Government have no doubt issued a Government Order fixing Ellore as the headquarters of the district. At first, I am not one of those who are for the reopening of the question, for I admit that in a decision of this kind, there must be some finality. But, Sir, on a closer examination of the question, I find that nothing would be lost by reopening the question and coming to a right conclusion. In pursuance of that Government Order a site for constructing the headquarters buildings at Ellore was selected and the necessary notices under the Land Acquisition Act were issued; but some time before that, a similar site was selected at Nidadavole and similar notices were issued under the Land Acquisition Act there also. Still those notices are in force and have not been withdrawn. So, Sir, with regard to the land acquisition proceedings, both Ellore and Nidadavole stand on the same footing. Now, even from a financial point of view, there would be no loss if this question is reopened because when this question went up before the Finance Committee in January last, they recommended in effect that this question of selecting the headquarters might usefully be reconsidered, and in answer to a question put in this House, the hon. the Revenue Member was also pleased to state that no large amount of money had so far been spent at Ellore. Only some small amount had been spent. So, Sir, from this statement of the Government, it is clear that financially there would be no loss to Government in reopening the question of the selection of the headquarters. On the other hand, there may be some positive gain, because the officer who was entrusted with the investigation of this question and was asked to report on the relative advantages of Nidadavole and Ellore reported that the building land at Nidadavole

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was cheap. Nidadavole can be preferred to Ellore even now. There would be some gain because building land at Nidadavole is cheaper comparatively. So, Sir, there will be no harm if this question is reopened even now.

“Coming to the relative advantages of Nidadavole to be the headquarters of the district, if you look at the map of the district, you will find that Nidadavole is at the head of a system of navigable canals which run through all the important parts of the district. Nidadavole is connected by the Bank canal with Narasapur taluk; by the Narasapur canal with Narasapur and Tanuku taluks; by the Gostanadi canal with Tanuku and Bhimavaram taluks; by the Vundi canal with Bhimavaram and Tadepalligudem taluks; and by the Ellore canal with Tadepalligudem and Ellore taluks. These are all navigable canals and the rahadhari boats plying on them make access to Nidadavole easy, quick and economical. The boat charges for passenger traffic on these canals are generally one anna for every 10 miles which work out to a little more than one pie per mile.

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“Further, Sir, in most of these important canals, boats will be available at all times of the day. That is a great advantage. There will be no delay of waiting and no risks of missing these conveyances. Now, Sir, Nidadavole is also connected with almost all the important parts of the district by railways. It is a railway junction. It is connected by the main line with the Tadepalli and Ellore taluks on the left and with the Nidadavole taluk on the right. A branch line which is rapidly nearing completion connects Nidadavole with Tanuku, Bhimavaram and Narasapur taluks. So, Nidadavole is at the centre of all-important communications in the district. This is true even with regard to roadways in the district. There is a road running right through the delta from Nidadavole to Narasapur and from it branch several roads running across the delta on both sides. In this way, Nidadavole occupies a very central and an important place in the district. Another thing is this. To develop such excellent communications from Ellore to all the populous and important parts in the district is impossible even in future. Ellore is cut away, as it were, from the delta by the extensive and marshy Kollair lake. Under these circumstances, it is no wonder that disinterested persons who bestowed any thought on this, unhesitatingly recommended Nidadavole. I can do no better than read a few extracts from the report of the officer who was specially entrusted with the work of investigating the case of Ellore and Nidadavole and to report on the matter. I refer to the report of Mr. Todd, dated 24th August 1925. Four Collectors including this special officer have reported their opinions in the matter.

“The first in point of time is that of Mr. Turing. He stated that the headquarters must necessarily be at Ellore apparently on the ground of its size and importance. He did not discuss the matter in any detail at all. The next is that of Mr. Campbell who in 1917 urged that the headquarters should be located at Nidadavole and considered that the arguments in favour of Nidadavole in preference to Ellore are particularly overwhelming, especially having regard to the future. In 1920, Mr. Moore also reported and in his report to the Government he preferred Nidadavole.

“Now, Sir, with regard to the opinions of heads of departments, they are also in favour of Nidadavole. The District Judge is strongly in favour of Nidadavole. The District Superintendent of Police, Khan Bahadur S. Muhammad Ali Sahib, favours Nidadavole. The Sub-Collector, Narasapur,

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and the Deputy Collectors of Nidadavole and Bhimavaram favour Nidadavole. The District Educational Officer Mr. K. Tatacharya prefers Nidadavole and so does Mr. K. Chiranjeevi, the District Registrar.

"The only advocates of Ellore are the Deputy Collector, Ellore, Mr. Mahanty, the District Health Officer, Mr. T. Lakshminarayana and the District Medical Officer Mr. V. Ganapathi Rao. Neither of these Medical Officers condemns Nidadavole as unhealthy. Mr. Lakshminarayana bases his opinion on the extra expenditure which he thinks will be needed at Nidadavole. Mr. Ganapathi Rao is chiefly concerned in having his headquarters hospital in a big town and also in the District Headquarters. This can only be achieved by putting the headquarters where the hospital now is. So, he favours Ellore.

"The Public Works Department naturally favours Nidadavole, as it is the only possible headquarters for the Executive Engineer. The Superintending Engineer Mr. Bhaskara Ayyar is also of this opinion.

"Therefore from these reports, it is clear that the official opinion is decidedly in favour of Nidadavole. Now, to refer to the non-official opinion in the district, the taluk boards in the district, excepting the two interested ones, passed resolutions favouring Nidadavole. The Ellore Taluk Board is naturally interested in Ellore and the Kovvur Taluk Board is equally interested in Nidadavole. Leaving aside these two interested boards, if we turn to the unprejudiced ones in the district, we find that the taluk boards of Tanuku, Bhimavaram and Narasapur placed on record their opinion favouring Nidadavole. Now, as against this we have got the resolution of this House passed in December 1925. I shall just say a word or two about it. That resolution was moved by Mr. M. Ganga Raju and seconded by Mr. N. Devendrudu. Both of them are residents of Ellore. Mr. P. Sagaram who comes from a different part of the district opposed the resolution. There was no discussion, and the resolution was by agreement of the members present in that sitting postponed to some other date for a full discussion. But when the question came up before this House for the second time, no such discussion took place. In the result, hon. Members of this House, some 22 in number voted for Ellore without knowing anything of the conditions in the district. Hon. Members who came from the district concerned or from the neighbouring districts who might be expected to know something of the district, did not vote for Ellore excepting Mr. N. Devendrudu, a resident of Ellore."

MR. M. NARAYANA RAO :—"A resolution was brought before this House to make Ellore the headquarters of the district. Now, Sir, to say again that Nidadavole should be the headquarters, is a bad policy. Perhaps next year another resolution will be brought to fix Ellore after half the buildings are constructed, and you will again say, go back to Ellore. This is certainly a bad policy. Again my hon. Friend has stated that building lands are cheap in Nidadavole. I say, Sir, that in Ellore land is much cheaper than at Nidadavole. Land is not the only question that has to be taken into consideration. Other materials and labour are also required and they should be also taken up for consideration. Stone, sand, chunam and other things are much dearer in Nidadavole than in Ellore. You cannot have enough labour in Nidadavole. Labour has to be imported from other parts of the district for the construction of buildings. In pursuance of the resolution already

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passed, some of the headquarters have been shifted to Ellore, viz., District Court, Sessions Court and the Imperial Bank. There is also plenty of filtered water supplied by the water works at Ellore. The District Registrar's office which is temporarily shifted to Nidadavole for want of accommodation has to be brought back to Ellore. At Ellore, there is hardly any accommodation for the poor clerical staff and other menial staff. I think it is impossible to find enough accommodation for these poor people. Now, as regards the communications, Nidadavole has got its canal communication and also railway communication. Some parts of the Nidadavole taluk are far away from Nidadavole. We must see that the poorer people of the district reach the headquarters when necessary with smaller expense than the richer people of the district.

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P.M.

"Long before Government conceived the idea of bifurcating the district, Congressmen have thought that the district should be bifurcated on account of the very large extent of the district, and there is a Congress Committee organization in the West Godavari district. Even the Congress people have pitched upon Ellore, and the District Congress Committee is now being operated from Ellore. My hon. Friend who is the Secretary of the District Congress Committee has got his office headquarters at Ellore and he is residing at Ellore. Even the Congress people have preferred Ellore to be the headquarters of the district. I think we have got all the various departmental officials at Ellore excepting the District Collector, and I think with some difficulty we can find accommodation for even the District Collector's office at Ellore, and we have also accommodated all the district headquarters. It would be very difficult and very costly to shift to Nidadavole from Ellore."

MR. K. V. R. SWAMI :—"Sir, it pains me very much to differ from my hon. Friend Mr. Narayana Rao. In the selection of headquarters, the only thing we have to consider is as to which place would be preferable to the mufassal people. There is no doubt that what my friend Mr. Narayana Rao said is true so far as Ellore is concerned. It is a big town and it has got a number of buildings; it has better population, better sanitation, better water-supply and all that. But we have to see whether this town of Ellore is connected with mufassal places. I submit, Sir, that the communications are very bad with regard to Ellore. There are seven taluks in West Godavari, five of which are connected with Nidadavole by canal communication. If anybody wants to go to the headquarters, if fixed at Nidadavole, he can go there if he pays one or two annas and after having his work done, he can return home by the next morning. If Ellore is to be selected, all these people of the five taluks out of seven, will have first to go to Nidadavole and then take train and go to Ellore, the third class railway fare for which is about thirteen annas from Nidadavole. So a stream of people will have to constantly pass Nidadavole, and go to Ellore which is a distant place. No doubt Nidadavole is too much to the east and Ellore is too much to the west, and there is nothing to choose between them; but so far as communications are concerned, Nidadavole is very well situated. Another thing is this. My friend Mr. Narayana Rao said: Ellore has been already selected, and why do you now go back upon that resolution and propose another place as headquarters? I would have hesitated to support this motion if money had been spent at Ellore for buildings, etc. I ascertained from the hon. the Revenue Member beforehand that no money has yet been spent on buildings. But Mr. Narayana Rao said that in Ellore all the departments have been already

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[Mr. K. V. R. Swami]

provided with buildings. But I submit that those are private buildings, and I am sure even if Nidadavole is to be selected, for some time the headquarters will continue at Ellore until offices are built at Nidadavole. Mr. Narayana Rao spoke about the poor clerks, 'What about buildings for them?'. The first thing we have to consider is whether interests of the persons that go to the headquarters are to be looked after or those of the clerks. Anyhow the number of clerks would be few and they have to be provided with buildings. I may say one thing, Sir, that, though Nidadavole is a small village now, there are villages within an area of one mile of it which have got good buildings. The Government wanted to acquire an area of about 500 acres for giving as sites for building purposes; and in that way it can very soon be provided with good buildings. Another thing I may say is that Mr. Narayana Rao belongs to Ellore and he is interested in Ellore. He also says that Mr. Narayana Raju who is the Secretary of the Congress Committee selected Ellore for the headquarters for the Congress Committee. That also shows that Mr. Narayana Raju is more impartial in selecting the centre. He would have been very well advised if he had said that Ellore should remain as headquarters, because, he has his office there and he is a member of the municipal council of Ellore. Though all points are in favour of Mr. Narayana Raju, personally he did not support Ellore. In this matter hon. Members, if they have seen the plan which had been supplied to most of us, they will see that all communications lead to Nidadavole, and it is easier for people to go to Nidadavole than to Ellore. I would make one appeal to such of the Members as have not studied this matter. I would request them, if they cannot accept the suggestion made by me, and if they feel doubtful, to be neutral in this matter. If they have not studied the matter, it is better that they should be neutral because they should not risk this place or that place being voted for. I also make one appeal to the hon. the Revenue Member and other hon. Members on the Treasury bench. They have selected Ellore on the word of this Council. Ellore is not the choice of the Government. All the reports of the officials would show that Nidadavole was preferred by them. Two Government Orders were issued, one in 1923 and one in 1925 showing that Nidadavole was selected as headquarters. They impartially considered the matter and came to the conclusion that Nidadavole was the best place. But this Council having voted in favour of Ellore, they did not like in matters like this to go against the wishes of this Council, and selected Ellore and issued a communique. With regard to that resolution too, I may be permitted to say that only 22 Members voted for Ellore, 9 were against, and 30 remained neutral. And the gentleman who moved that proposition was Mr. Ganga Raju who was an hon. Member of this House at that time, and the other Member from the district at that time, Mr. Seetayya, remained neutral. And the third Member from that district was a nominated gentleman and he voted against Ellore. That was the situation when Ellore was selected. I belong to the other district, and I have nothing to do with West Godavari. So far as I have ascertained, the opinions of people of West Godavari not only by personal conversation, but through resolutions passed by the taluk boards of Bhimavaram, Narasapur and Tanuku, are in favour of Nidadavole. There was also the District Conference of West Godavari where a resolution for Nidadavole was proposed and opposed; the matter was however fully discussed, and a resolution was passed to the effect that Nidadavole should be selected as the headquarters. For all these reasons I would urge that Nidadavole should be selected.

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4-45
P.M.

Mr. J. BHEEMAYYA, in opposing Nidadavole and supporting Ellore as capital, made a speech in Telugu in the course of which he said that Nidadavole is in a corner of West Godavari, and is a centre only for canal traffic. Now-a-days people always prefer travelling by railways or motors, and motor traffic is extensive between Narasapur, Bhimavaram and Ellore, etc. A railway is also under construction from Narasapur to Bhimavaram. Nidadavole would be very inconvenient for people of, say, Kamavarapukota taluk who are very poor, as they cannot be expected to go to Ellore and then to Nidadavole. Ellore has all the advantages of a modern town; it has Gandhi Visvavidyalaya, the Collector's office, good sanitation, water-supply, etc. Considering all these things, this Council passed a resolution in favour of Ellore, and the Government accepted it. He appealed to Members not to go back upon it."

* Rao Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU —"Sir, if I rise to speak on this motion, my justification is that the members of the district concerned are not agreed among themselves. (A voice: Compromise.) I wish, Sir, the best disciplined party as they claim to be would see that a compromise is arrived at. Sir, the first thing that we find is, I may say I am also surprised to see it, that at a time when there was no question of headquarters, not only for purposes of district administration but for other purposes also such as those of the Congress organization, Ellore had a sufficient importance of its own in the old district. Its importance for Congress organization has been referred to. I am glad now to see that probably they want to change their mind. And what exactly could have been the reason why Ellore was selected, by the Congress as the headquarters, and not Nidadavole, if really the latter is more convenient? Secondly we find that except for the Public Works head office which must necessarily be at Nidadavole, quarters have to be provided for, if all other offices are to be located there. The question will be how to find the enormous funds. The report of the Collector shows that Nidadavole is not a big place, and of course new buildings will have to be provided, and a large amount of expenditure will have to be incurred thereon. We can have a modern Delhi repeated in Nidadavole if necessary, but I do not know if our finances would permit such a large expenditure on one district at this time. Then, Sir, Mr. Todd the Collector was not for Nidadavole or Ellore but he was for Narasapur. After all, I submit that this question having been decided by this Council and acted upon by the Government, it is not right or desirable that we should reopen the question merely because new Members want it. If so, there can be no finality about it because, I am sure, another set of Members may be coming in after the next election and they may again go back upon the decision which we may arrive at now."

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(* The hon. Mr. N. E. MARJORIBANKS :—"Mr. President, Sir, when Government first published proposals for the division of this district into two, the proposed headquarters was at Nidadavole as hon. Members have stated. Subsequently when they had to come to a final decision they had the vote of this House in favour of Ellore, and there was also the consideration—which, of course, it was not possible to ignore—that for so many years notwithstanding the construction of the ancient and the opening of the canals, Ellore has remained a large town and has grown, whereas Nidadavole remains a canal junction. But on the other hand, as hon. Members have pointed out, the local officials are mostly in favour of Nidadavole as being a more convenient place. And certainly in my inspection of the two places, I thought that Nidadavole would probably be a much pleasanter place to live in. But there

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were other considerations, particularly the existence of Ellore as a big town, which we could not over-ride. It is a matter on which the House has heard, I think, every argument on both sides, and we shall bear what hon. Members have said in mind, and any verdict of the House will be duly considered by the Government."

The motion was put and declared carried.

A poll was demanded and the House divided thus:—

Ayes.

- | | |
|-------------------------------------|--|
| 1. Mr. A. Balakrishna Shetti. | 10. Mr. C. Ramasamayajulu. |
| 2. " W. P. A. Soundarapandia Nadar. | 11. Natam Dubash Kadir Syed Ibrahim Sahib Bahadur. |
| 3. " K. Koti Reddi. | 12. Mr. K. S. Sivasubrahmanya Ayyar. |
| 4. " P. C. Venkatapatiraju. | 13. " K. R. Karant. |
| 5. " P. Siva Rao. | 14. " K. Krishnaswami Nayakar. |
| 6. " G. Harisarvottama Rao. | 15. " K. Madhavan Nayar. |
| 7. " C. N. Muthuranga Mudaliyar. | 16. " B. Venkataratnam. |
| 8. " K. V. R. Swami. | |
| 9. " D. Narayana Raju. | |

Noes.

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|--------------------------------------|--|
| 1. Mr. H. B. Ari Gowder. | 13. Mr. P. T. Rajan. |
| 2. " J. Bheemayya. | 14. " T. K. Chidambaranatha Mudaliyar. |
| 3. " Mupil Nayar of Kavalappara. | 15. " S. N. Dorai Raja. |
| 4. " S. Venkayya. | 16. Rao Sahib S. Ellappa Chettiyar. |
| 5. " S. Arpudaswami Udayar. | 17. Diwan Bahadur P. C. Elhirajulu Nayudu. |
| 6. Zamindar of Gollapalli. | 18. Muhammad Khadir Mohidin Sahib Bahadur. |
| 7. Sir Alexander MacDougall. | 19. Diwan Bahadur S. Kumaraswami Reddiyar. |
| 8. Mr. C. R. T. Congreve. | 20. T. M. Moidu Sahib Bahadur. |
| 9. " Mothay Narayana Rao. | 21. Rao Bahadur B. Muniswami Nayudu. |
| 10. Kumararaja of Venkatagiri. | 22. K. Sarabha Reddi. |
| 11. Mr. B. Ramachandra Reddi. | 23. Zamindar of Mirzapuram. |
| 12. Diwan Bahadur M. Krishnan Nayar. | |

16 hon. Members voted *for* the motion and 23 *against* it.

The motion was lost.

Time allowed for this demand having expired, the demand for a sum not exceeding Rs. 2,53,93,700 was put to the House and declared carried.

A poll was demanded and the House divided thus:—

Ayes.

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1. The hon. Sir C. P. Ramaswami Ayyar. | 18. Zamindar of Saithur. |
| 2. " Mr. N. E. Marjoribanks. | 19. Mr. H. B. Ari Gowder. |
| 3. " Khan Bahadur Muhammad Usman Sahib Bahadur. | 20. " A. B. Shetty. |
| 4. " Mr. T. E. Moir. | 21. " J. Bheemayya. |
| 5. " Diwan Bahadur R. N. Arogyaswami Mudaliyar. | 22. " V. Ch. John. |
| 6. " Mr. A. Ranganatha Mudaliyar. | 23. Mahmud Schammad Sahib Bahadur. |
| 7. " Dr. P. Subbarayan. | 24. Mr. Muppil Nayar of Kavalappara. |
| 8. Dr. (Mrs.) Muthulakshmi Reddi. | 25. " B. Nagan Gowda. |
| 9. Mr. T. R. Venkatarama Sastriyar. | 26. Subadar-Major S. A. Nanjappa Bahadur. |
| 10. " J. F. Hall. | 27. Mr. Al. Ar. Narayanan Chettiyar. |
| 11. " P. L. Moors. | 28. " C. R. Parthasarathi Ayyangar. |
| 12. " H. Tireman. | 29. " Ramanath Goenka. |
| 13. " G. T. Boag. | 30. " N. Sivaraaj. |
| 14. " V. Pandrang Rao. | 31. " M. V. Gangadhar Siva. |
| 15. " S. H. Slater. | 32. " W. P. A. Soundarapandia Nadar. |
| 16. " O. B. Cotterell. | 33. " T. C. Srinivas Ayyangar. |
| 17. Khan Bahadur Muhammad Bazl-ul-lah Sahib Bahadur. | 34. " Sh. Subrahmanya Moopanam. |
| | 35. " Chavadi K. Subrahmanya Pillai. |
| | 36. " S. V. Vanavudayya Goundar. |
| | 37. " S. Venkayya. |

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Ayes—cont.

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| 38. Mr. K. R. Venkatarama Ayyar. | 54. Diwan Bahadur M. Krishnan Nayar. |
| 39. „ K. Krishnan. | 55. Khan Bahadur S. K. Abdul Razak Sahib Bahadur. |
| 40. „ S. Arpudaswami Udayar. | 56. Mr. P. T. Rajan. |
| 41. Zamindar of Gollapalli. | 57. „ T. K. Chidambaranatha Mudaliyar. |
| 42. Mr. G. R. Premayya. | 58. „ S. N. Dorai Raja. |
| 43. Syed Tajudin Sahib Bahadur. | 59. Rao Sahib S. Ellappa Chettiyar. |
| 44. Swami A. S. Sahajanandam. | 60. Diwan Bahadur P. C. Ethirajulu Nayudu. |
| 45. Rao Sahib R. Srinivasan. | 61. Muhammad Khadir Mohidin Sahib Bahadur. |
| 46. Mr. C. R. T. Congteve. | 62. Diwan Bahadur S. Kumaraswami Reddiyar. |
| 47. Sir Alexander MacDougall. | 63. T. M. Moidu Sahib Bahadur. |
| 48. Rao Sahib L. C. Guruswami. | 64. Rao Bahadur B. Muniswami Nayudu. |
| 49. Mr. V. I. Muniswami Pillai. | 65. Mr. K. Sarabha Reddi. |
| 50. Kumararaja of Venkatagiri. | 66. Zamindar of Mirzapuram. |
| 51. Mr. B. Ramachandra Reddi. | |
| 52. Raja of Panagal. | |
| 53. Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. Patro. | |

Noes.

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|--|--|
| 1. Mr. Sami Venkatachalam Chetti. | 19. Mr. U. Ramaswami Ayyar. |
| 2. „ S. Satyamurti. | 20. „ C. Ramasomayajulu. |
| 3. „ C. V. Venkataramana Ayyangar. | 21. Basheer Ahmed Sayeed Sahib Bahadur. |
| 4. „ T. Adinarayana Chettiyar. | 22. Mr. P. Bhaktavatsulu Nayudu. |
| 5. „ K. Koti Reddi. | 23. Sriman Biswanath Das Mahasayo. |
| 6. „ S. Muttayya Mudaliyar. | 24. Mr. A. Kaleswara Rao. |
| 7. „ P. C. Venkatapati Raju. | 25. „ R. Srinivasa Ayyangar. |
| 8. „ C. S. Govindaraja Mudaliyar. | 26. Dubash Khadir Syed Ibrahim Sahib Bahadur, Natam. |
| 9. „ G. Harisarovattana Rao. | 27. Mr. K. S. Sivasubrahmanya Ayyar. |
| 10. „ C. N. Muthuranga Mudaliyar. | 28. „ V. Kameswara Rao Nayudu. |
| 11. Abdul Hamid Khan Sahib Bahadur. | 29. „ L. K. Tulasiram. |
| 12. Mr. K. V. R. Swami. | 30. „ K. R. Karant. |
| 13. K. P. V. S. Muhammad Meera Ravuttar Bahadur. | 31. „ K. V. Krishnaswami Nayakar. |
| 14. Mr. D. Narayana Raju. | 32. „ K. Madhavan Nayar. |
| 15. „ Mothay Narayana Rao. | 33. „ C. Venkataranganu Nayudu. |
| 16. „ B. S. Mallayya. | 34. „ B. Venkataratnam. |
| 17. „ C. Obi Reddi. | 35. „ C. Gopala Menon. |
| 18. „ A. Parasurama Rao. | 36. „ M. A. Manikkavelu Nayakar. |

66 hon. Members voted *for* the motion and 36 *against* it.

The motion was carried and the grant was made.

DEMAND II—EXCISE.

* The hon. Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR :—
“Mr. President, Sir, on the recommendation of His Excellency the Governor, I move

‘that a sum not exceeding 38.41 lakhs be granted for the Excise department.’”

Mr. SAMI VENKATACHALAM CHETTI :—“Sir, I move

‘that the demand of Rs. 58,400 for Excise Commissioner be cut by Rs. 100.’

“The object of this motion is to discuss the Excise policy of the Government. I do not think, Sir, that it is now necessary to impress upon this House the urgency of Government declaring in unambiguous terms their policy in regard to the drink problem in this country. I have indications that the Members of all the parties in this House are unanimous in support of

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this motion. Though the Justice party had been in power for six years, and though nothing has been done in this direction it is certainly a great relief for me to see that some hon. Members of that party also, have given notices of the same motion (Mr. S. Satyamurti—Hear, hear). We demand, Sir, from this Government the declaration that prohibition is its ultimate goal to be reached by definite and progressive stages, and as an earnest of their intentions it is necessary that they should indicate to this House what the immediate steps are that they would practically adopt. It is necessary, also, Sir, that the present Government must express its dissent with the views contained in G.O. No. 576, Revenue, dated 12th September 1926, which perhaps is the legacy of the previous Ministry. In point of inconsistency and in point of irrelevant statements and in point of evasion of main issues the Government Order is certainly unsurpassed. Sir, the Government Order has dealt with the proposals made time after time in the most cavalier fashion. They dismiss one proposal after another with a sentence explaining the reason why it should be dismissed. The reasons advanced in support of the dismissal of one proposal are in contravention to those stated in support of the dismissal of another proposal. Taking first the question of total prohibition . . .”

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—“The hon. Member will resume his speech to-morrow. It being 5 o'clock, the Council will now adjourn to assemble to-morrow at 11 o'clock.”

The House then rose for the day.

R. V. KRISHNA AYYAR,
Secretary to the Legislative Council.

[15th March 1927]

APPENDIX I.

[Vide answer to question No. 300 asked by Mr. A. Parasurama Rao at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on the 15th March 1927, page 116 supra.]

Statement.

Fasli.	Gangaperur.		Penna-perur.	Mantapampalli.	
	Gangal-cheruvu.	Chinna-cheruvu.	Galgal-cheruvu.	Ghalama-red li kunta.	Kuta-lamma oberuvu.
	RS.	RS.	RS.	RS.	RS.
1322	284	..	..	80	35
1323	299	..	32	309	83
1324	826	224	46	875	76
1325	123	72	..	247	19
1326	1	..	..	41	2
1327	60	31	..	80	2
1328	998	150	33	384	103
1329	21	49	15	14	34
1330	94	57	9	237	73
1331	73	11	..	38	16
1332	123	2	1	101	54
1333	1,098	138	53	425	93
1334	224	21	31	143	30
1335	17	29	..	270	22

NOTE.—Gangalacheruvu of Gangaperur has wet ayaout in both the villages of Gangaperur and Pennaperur.

APPENDIX II.

[Vide answer to question No. 312 asked by Mr. J. A. Saldanha at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on the 15th March 1927, page 121 supra.]

Statement showing the period of immunity conferred by various treatments.

Number and names of contagious diseases.	Prophylactic kinds of treatment.	Period of immunity conferred by each treatment.	Remarks.
1. Rinderpest ..	(1) Inoculation by "Serum alone" method.	9 days.	
	(2) Inoculation by "Serum simultaneous" method	3 years or possibly life	
2. Anthrax ..	Inoculation by "Serum alone" method	15 days.	
3. Hæmorrhagic Septicæmia.	(1) Vaccination	2 months	Not suitable for use in outbreaks.
	(2) Inoculation by "Serum alone" method.	15 days	
4. Black quarter.	(1) Inoculation by "Serum alone" method.	About 9 days.	
	(2) Inoculation by Serum and Aggressin.	A longer immunity than that obtained by "Serum alone" method.	
	(3) Inoculation by aggressin ..	At least 1 year ..	Not suitable for use in outbreaks. Careful nursing and feeding of the affected animals alone are necessary.
5. Foot and mouth disease.	No prophylactic treatment ..		

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APPENDIX III.

[Vide item II "Communications to the Council", on page 126 supra.]

G.O. No. 212, Development, dated 12th February 1927.

READ—the following papers :—

I

Letter from Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD BAZL-UL-LAH SAHIB Bahadur, C.I.E., O.B.E., M.L.C., Director of Industries, to the Secretary to Government, Development Department (through the Accountant-General, Madras), dated Madras, the 15th January 1927, No. 477-E/26.

I have the honour to forward herewith the balance sheet of the Industrial Engineering Workshop as at 30th September 1926 together with the relative profit and loss account for the half-year ending that date from which it will be observed that the Workshop sustained a loss of Rs. 2,736-1-2 during the period under review. The loss, however, is more apparent than real since no receipts could be shown in respect of work in progress to the value of Rs. 13,190-14-9 which will be reflected in the accounts of the subsequent period.

ENCLOSURE

Letter from Messrs. FRASER & ROSS, Chartered Accountants, Commercial Accountants and Auditors to the Government of Madras, to the Director of Industries, Madras, dated 13th December 1926.

[Industrial Engineers Workshop.]

Accounts for the half-year ending 30th September 1926.

We have the honour to enclose herewith the balance sheet of the above as at 30th September 1926 together with relative profit and loss account for the half-year ending that date, receipt of which kindly acknowledge.

We have to draw your attention to the following points :—

1. *Buildings*.—Additions Rs. 1,709 is for expenditure on the construction of sheds and a compound wall with gate by the Public Works Department and same has been adjusted by the Accountant-General as per H.A. Comml. Mis. No. 222, dated 23rd September 1926.

2. *Reserve for Interest on Capital*.—We have adjusted the Interest on Capital at 5·20 per cent being the prescribed rate for 1925-26 debiting profit and loss account and crediting reserve for interest. We have included in the profit and loss account of the half year the half year's interest at the same rate as for 1925-26.

3. *Leave and Pension Contributions*.—Rs. 1,028-11-3 as under—

	RS.	A.	P.
Pay of Industrial Engineer and Assistant	2,721	4	0
Industrial Engineer for half year.			
Pay of Foreman and Storekeeper	1,393	9	0
Total ..	4,114	13	0

Twenty-five per cent of Rs. 4,114-13-0 .. 1,028 11 3

4. *Liabilities*.—Pumping and boring section Rs. 2,157-12-8; This amount is payable to the section being the wages to apprentices of the section whose services were utilized by the Workshop.

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Balance Sheet as at 30th September 1926—*cont.*

PROPERTY AND ASSETS— <i>cont.</i>		RS.	A.	P.	RS.	A.	P.
Stores and raw materials—at cost.	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Work in progress—At cost of materials and labour.	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Book debts—Considered good	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Advances—Insurance prepaid	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Cash and other balances—Personal ledger No. I	..	..	..	..	7,213	13	10
Account. Personal ledger No. II	..	..	..	..	7,361	12	1
Account. Petty cash	..	..	..	..	100	0	0
Profit and loss account—Interest on capital, 1925-26	..	..	..	..	6,636	8	9
Loss for the half-year ..	..	..	..	..	2,736	1	2
Less—Profit as per last Balance sheet.	..	..	..	..	9,372	9	11
	..	..	..	..	9,080	12	4
	..	..	..	..	291	13	7
	..	..	..	..	1,66,353	0	6

Examined and found correct.

FRASER & ROSS,

Chartered Accountants,
Commercial Accountants and Auditors to the Government of Madras.MADRAS,
13th December 1926.

[15th March 1927]

(2)
INDUSTRIAL ENGINEERS WORKSHOP, WASHHERMANPET.
Profit and Loss account for the half-year ending 30th September 1926.

	RS.	A.	P.	RS.	A.	P.	By Work done for—	RS.	A.	P.	RS.	A.	P.
To Opening balance—	..	27,673	7	9	..	..	Pumping and boring section	..	26,035	7	7	..	..
Stock of stores	..	3,942	0	9	..	..	Inter departments	..	523	5	6	2,114	13
Work in progress	..	..	..	..	..	..	Other departments	..	565	5	0	27	10
	..	..	..	..	..	..	Private parties	..	4,425	3	8	7	7
Purchases (Stores)	..	..	..	..	31,615	8	6	..	..	..	..	31,549	5
Scrap used	..	..	..	..	28,922	3	9	Workshop maintenance as per contra	..	..	..	2,114	13
Wages ..	..	..	..	..	138	5	0	„ 20 per cent scrap used in the Work-	..	..	..	27	10
Salaries	..	..	..	..	6,957	15	3	shop.	..	..	..	199	8
Water charges	..	..	..	..	4,114	13	0	Miscellaneous receipts	..	..	..	13,190	14
Telephone rent	..	..	..	..	114	3	4	„ Work in progress as on 30th Sep-	..	..	..	9	9
Workshop running expenses	..	..	..	..	2,114	13	2	tember 1926.	..	..	..	31,220	9
Insurance	..	..	..	..	156	4	0	„ Stock of stores as on 30th September	..	..	..	11	11
Printing and Stationery	..	..	..	..	114	12	0	1926.	..	..	..	2,736	1
Miscellaneous expenses	..	..	..	..	18	14	0	„ Loss for the half year	..	..	..	2	2
Audit fee	..	..	..	..	100	0	0	..	..	..	..	..	..
Leave and Pension contributions	..	..	..	..	1,028	11	3	..	..	..	..	..	..
Interest on capital	..	..	..	..	3,500	0	0	..	..	..	..	..	..
Depreciation on—	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Buildings	..	929	7	3	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Machinery	..	898	10	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Furniture	..	235	10	8	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	..	..	..	..	2,063	12	1	..	..	..	..	81,038	15
	..	..	..	..	81,038	15	4	..	..	..	..	4	4

15th March 1927]

II

*Endorsement of the Accountant-General, Madras, dated
2nd February 1927, No. H.A. Comml. 14-893.*

Forwarded.

Necessary adjustments have been made in the books of this office for January 1927 in respect of audit fee and contribution on account of leave and pension to the debit of the personal ledger account of the concern, by credit to "XXV. Industries—Recoveries of indirect charges from Government Commercial undertakings".

2. A sum of Rs. 6,636-8-9, being the interest on capital for 1925-26, and Rs. 2,444-3-7, being the profit of the concern for the same period (after taking into account interest charges), have been adjusted in the books of this office for January 1927 to the debit of the personal deposit account of the concern by credit to "19. Interest on ordinary debt"—Deduct interest transferred to Commercial Departments and "XXV. Industries—Industries—Profits from Government Commercial undertakings" respectively.

M. SUBRAHMANYAM,
Deputy Accountant-General.

To the Secretary to Government, Development Department.

Order—No. 212, Development, dated 12th February 1927.

Recorded.

(By order of the Government, Ministry of Development)

V. PANDRANG ROW,
Secretary to Government.

To the Director of Industries.

- „ Accountant-General, through the Finance Department.
- „ Auditor-General (with C.L.).
- „ Secretary, Legislative Council, for placing the order on the Council table.
- „ Assistant Director of Commercial Audit, Madras.

Copy to the Finance Department.

THE MADRAS LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

Wednesday, the 16th March 1927.

The House met at 11 o'clock, Mr. President (the hon. Rao Bahadur C. V. S. NARASIMHA RAJU Garu) in the chair.

PRESENT:

Ramaswami Ayyar, C.I.E., The hon. Sir C. P.	Madhavan Nayar, Mr. K.
Marjoribanks, C.S.I., C.I.E., The hon. Mr. N. E.	Mahmud Schammad Sahib Bahadur.
Usman Sahib Bahadur, The hon. Khan Bahadur Muhammad.	Mallayya, Mr. B. S.
Moir, C.S.I., C.I.E., The hon. Mr. T. E.	Manikkavelu Nayakar, Mr. M. A.
Subbarayan, The hon. Dr. P.	Marudavanam Pillai, Mr. C.
Banganatha Mudaliyar, The hon. Mr. A.	Meera Ravuttar Bahadur, K. P. V. S. Muhammad.
Arogyaswami Mudaliyar, The hon. Diwan Bahadur R. N.	Moidoo Sahib Bahadur, T. M.
Abdul Rasack Sahib Bahadur, Khan Bahadur S. K.	Moore, C.I.E., Mr. P. L.
Abdul Wahab Sahib Bahadur, Munshi.	Muniswami Nayudu, Rao Bahadur B.
Adinarayana Chettiyar, Mr. T.	Muniswami Pillai, Mr. V. I.
Anjaneyulu, Mr. P.	Muppil Nayar of Kavalappara, Mr.
Appayn Chettiyar, Mr. C. D.	Murugappa Chettiyar, Diwan Bahadur A. M.
Ari (powder, Mr. H. B.	Muttayya Mudaliyar, Mr. S.
Arpudaswami Udayar, Mr. S.	Muthulakshmi Reddi, Dr. (Mrs.)
Basheer Ahmad Sayeed Sahib Bahadur.	Muthuranga Mudaliyar, Mr. C. N.
Bazl-ul-Jah Sahib Bahadur, C.I.E., C.B.E., Khan Bahadur Muhammad.	Nagan Gowda, Mr. K.
Bhaktavatsulu Nayudu, Mr. P.	Nanjappa Bahadur Subadar-Major S. A.
Bheemayya, Mr. J.	Narayana Raju, Mr. D.
Biswanath Das Mahasayo, Sriman.	Narayanan Chettiyar, Mr. A. Ar.
Boag, Mr. G. T.	Narayanan Nambudripad, Rao Bahadur O. M.
Chidambaranatha Mudaliyar, Mr. T. K.	Narayanaswami Pillai, Mr. T. M.
Congreve, Mr. C. R. T.	Obi Reddi, Mr. C.
Cotterell, C.I.E., Mr. C. B.	Pandrang Rao, Mr. V.
Dorai Raja, Mr. S. N.	Parasurama Rao Pantulu, Mr. A.
Elappa Chettiyar, Rao Sahib S.	Parthasarathi Ayyangar, Mr. C. R.
Ethirajulu Nayudu, Diwan Bahadur P. C.	Patro, Kt., Rao Bahadur Sir A. P.
Gangadhara Siva, Mr. M. V.	Premayya, Mr. G. R.
Gopala Menon, Mr. C.	Raja of Panagal, K.C.I.E.
Govindaraja Mudaliyar, Mr. C. S.	Raja of Ramnad.
Guruswami, Rao Sahib L. C.	Rajan, Mr. P. T.
Hall, C.B.E., Mr. J. F.	Ramaachandra Padayachi, Mr. K.
Hamid Khan Sahib Bahadur, Abdul.	Ramaachandra Reddi, Mr. B.
Hampayya, Rai Sahib M.	Ramanath Goenka, Mr.
Harisarvottama Rao, Mr. G.	Ramasomayajulu, Mr. C.
Hearson, Mr. H. F. P.	Ramaswami Ayyar, Mr. U.
John, Mr. V. Ch.	Ratnasabapathi Mudaliyar, Rao Bahadur C. S.
Kaleswara Rao, Mr. A.	Sahajanandam Swami, Mr. A. S.
Kameswara Rao Nayudu, Mr. V.	Saldanha, Mr. J. A.
Karant, Mr. K. R.	Sami Venkatachalam Chetti, Mr.
Khadir Mohidin Sahib Bahadur, Muhammad.	Sarabha Reddi, Mr. K.
Koti Reddi, Mr. K.	Satyamurti, Mr. S.
Krishnan, Mr. K.	Shetty, Mr. A. B.
Krishnan Nayar, Diwan Bahadur M.	Sitarama Reddi, Rao Bahadur K.
Krishnaswami Nayakar, Mr. K. V.	Siva Raj, Mr. N.
Kumara Raja of Venkatagiri.	Siva Rao, Mr. P.
Kumaraswami Reddiyar, Diwan Bahadur S.	Sivasubrahmanya Ayyar, Mr. K. S.
Kuppuswami, Mr. J.	Slater, C.I.E., Mr. S. H.
MacDougall, Kt., Sir Alexander.	Smith, Mr. J. Mackenzie.
	Soundara Pandia Nadar, Mr. W. P. A.
	Srinivasa Ayyangar, Mr. R.
	Srinivasa Ayyangar, Mr. T. C.
	Srinivasan, Rao Sahib B.

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PRESENT—*cont.*

Subrahmanya Moopnar, Mr. S.
 Subrahmanya Pillai, Mr. Chavadi K.
 Swami, Mr. K. V. R.
 Syed Ibrahim Sahib Bahadur.
 Tajudin Sahib Bahadur, Syed.
 Tirenian, C.R.E., Mr. H.
 Tulasiram, Mr. L. K.
 Uppi Sahib Bahadur, Mr. K.
 Vanavudaiya Gounder, Mr. S. V.
 Venkatapati Raju, Mr. P. C.

Venkatarama Ayyar, Mr. K. R.
 Venkatarama Sastri, C.R.E., Mr. T. B.
 Venkataramana Ayyangar, Mr. C. V.
 Venkatarangam Nayudu, Mr. C.
 Venkataratnam, Mr. B.
 Venkiah, Mr. S.
 Wood, Mr. C. E.
 Zamindar of Gollapalli.
 Zamindar of Mirzapuram.
 Zamindar of Seithur.

I

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

[*Order made by the President of the Madras Legislative Council under Standing Order No. 15.*]

1. Starred questions to be put at a meeting of the Council with their answers shall be printed and placed on the Council table an hour before the President takes his seat.

The President will call out the name of each interpellator in the order in which the names are printed, specify the serial number of his question and make a sufficient pause to give him or any other member a reasonable opportunity of rising in his place and putting a supplementary question. Supplementary questions must be put immediately after the principal questions to which they relate.

2. If a member responsible for a starred question happens to be absent when it is called, it will be open either to him or to any other member to put supplemental questions thereon after the other starred questions for the day have been answered, provided question-time is not thereby exceeded.

3. Questions, not starred, will not be called in Council, but they will be printed with their answers and placed on the table of the House along with the list of starred questions, [Oral supplementary questions will not be allowed in regard to unstarred questions.]

STARRED QUESTIONS

Fisheries

Activities of the Fisheries department in Ganjam district.

321 Q.—Sriman BISWANATH DAS Mahasayo: Will the hon. the Minister for Public Health be pleased to state—

(a) the activities of the Department of Fisheries in the district of Ganjam; and

(b) whether they propose to improve the possibilities of the industry of fishery in the Circars and especially in the district of Ganjam?

A.—(a) The only activities are those relating to the working of the fish-curing yards of which there are sixteen in the district. In these yards salt is sold at a concessional rate to the curers who are also taught curing on sanitary and hygienic lines.

(b) Yes.

Sriman BISWANATH DAS Mahasayo:—"With reference to the answer to clause (a), it is stated that the curers are also taught curing on sanitary and hygienic lines. May I know, Sir, who teaches these curers?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—"We have got an establishment there for teaching."

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Sriman BISWANATH DAS Mahasayo :—" Then, Sir, in answer to clause (b), it is said that the department of Fisheries proposes to improve the possibilities of the industry in the district of Ganjam. May I know in what direction and whether they have any out and dry plan on the subject ? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR :—" The Director of Industries has sent a number of proposals for development. But orders have not been passed on them, and they are under the consideration of Government."

Sriman BISWANATH DAS Mahasayo :—" May I know whether he has sent any proposal regarding the development of the fishery industry in the district of Ganjam with its immense possibilities in the Chilka lake and on the sea coast ? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR :—" Yes, Sir."

Sriman BISWANATH DAS Mahasayo :—" Will the hon. the Minister for Fisheries be pleased to lay on the table or give a statement showing the various proposals for development ? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR :—" So far as Ganjam is concerned, the Director's proposals are as follows : he wants to improve the stock of fish in tanks and channels by stocking them with new and improved varieties of fish and he proposes also to establish a farm at Sonapur for the culture of oysters and backwater fish."

Mr. A. KALESWARA RAO :—" May I know whether there are any proposals with regard to the other districts of the Circars ? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR :—" Yes, Sir. The Director has sent in various proposals."

Auction of the fishery in the Kanigiri Reservoir.

* 322 Q.—Mr. B. RAMACHANDRA REDDI : Will the hon. the Minister for Public Health be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that the fishery in the Kanigiri Reservoir in Nellore district has not been put to auction this year ;

(b) if so, for what reasons ; and

(c) whether it is a fact that during several previous years the fishery of the Kanigiri Reservoir was put to auction ?

A.—(a) Yes.

(b) The fishery was given on lease to the Adi-Andhras of Vangal and Siddipuram, the previous year's lessees, as they had helped the Fisheries department to break up the local combine in 1925 and had incurred a loss in 1926.

(c) Yes.

Mr. B. RAMACHANDRA REDDI :—" With reference to the answer to clause (b), may I know whether there have been any other applicants ? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR :—" Yes, Sir."

Mr. B. RAMACHANDRA REDDI :—" May I also know whether it was first proposed to lease out the fishery to the Adi-Andhra Co-operative Society ? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR :—" There was such a proposal but it was not approved by the Government."

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Civil Veterinary Department*Degenerate condition of cattle in South Kanara.*

* 323 Q.—**Mr. A. B. SHETTY** : Will the hon. the Minister for Development be pleased to state—

(a) whether any complaints have been received about the degenerate condition of the cattle in South Kanara ;

(b) whether any and if so, what steps have been taken by Government for improving their condition and with what result ;

(c) whether the practice of reserving Government waste in South Kanara as grazing ground has been discontinued ; if so, since what date ; and

(d) whether any lands reserved as grazing grounds are now being assigned on darkhast ; and if so, whether the people object to the assignment of such lands ?

A.—(a) No. Government are aware, however, that the cattle of the West Coast generally are reported to be very poor.

(b) Breeding bulls have been placed at several centres in the South Kanara district. It is too early yet to say what results these efforts have had on the general condition of the cattle in the district.

(c) & (d) The Government are not aware of the existence of any such practice in the district.

Mr. K. R. KARANT :—“ With reference to the answer to clauses (c) and (d) may I know whether there is no such practice of reserving Government waste lands as grazing grounds ? ”

Mr. V. PANDRANG RAO (rose to answer the question) :—“ The Government are not aware of any such practice.”

The hon. the **PRESIDENT** :—“ When a Secretary to Government answers a question put to the hon. the Minister, he must preface his remarks by saying that he has been asked by his chief to answer the question. It is only then that he will be entitled to answer a question put to a Minister.”

Mr. V. PANDRANG RAO :—“ I have not been asked to answer the question, Sir.”

Mr. T. ADINARAYANA CHETTIYAR :—“ Will that answer then go into the records ? ”

The hon. the **PRESIDENT** :—“ The answer will be in the record, but it will not be an answer given on behalf of the Government.”

Mr. K. R. KARANT :—“ My question still waits for an answer.”

The hon. the **PRESIDENT** :—“ The hon. Minister is not able to answer.”

Mr. K. R. KARANT :—“ In view of the fact that grazing grounds set apart during the last settlement have since been included in the reserve, may I ask the hon. Minister to look into the matter and set apart some grounds for grazing ? ”

The hon. **Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR** :—“ I have no objection to pass on what the hon. Member has said to my hon. Colleague the Member for Revenue for his consideration.”

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Mr. K. H. KARANT :—“ But the question of grazing ground comes within the portfolio of the hon. Minister himself.”

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—“ When the hon. Minister says that he would pass it on to the hon. the Revenue Member, the hon. Member may take it that he knows the details of working of the departments better than he.”

Industries

Scholarships to students for technical and industrial training.

* 324 Q.—Sriman BISWANATH DAS Mahasayo: Will the hon. the Minister for Development and the hon. the Minister for Public Health be pleased to state—

(a) the number of scholarships granted to students for technical and industrial training by each of the three departments—

- (1) the Department of Industries,
- (2) the Department of Fisheries,
- (3) the Department of Agriculture ; and

(b) the minimum qualification necessary for the grant of each of these scholarships?

A.--(a) (1) A statement is appended.^a

(2) None. Stipends are, however, given to the pupil teachers undergoing training at the Fisheries Training Institute, Calicut.

(3) Seven.

(b) *Industries*.—Information is furnished in column 3 of the statement appended.

Agriculture.—Intermediate Examination of the Madras University in Group I or II or an examination of some other University recognized as equivalent thereto.

Sriman BISWANATH DAS Mahasayo :—“ May I know the principle on which the various scholarships are granted ? ”

The hon. Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—“ We try to give these scholarships to people who will be benefited by them and be useful to the country. I am not aware of any other principle.”

Sriman BISWANATH DAS Mahasayo :—“ I want to know whether a principle like this is adopted, that is, whether students of such communities as fishermen who deal with this and various other trades have any preference, or whether any tracts of the country which have not got any benefit out of these scholarships have got a prior claim for these scholarships ? ”

The hon. Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—“ If the hon. Member would turn to the appendix printed on the last page, he will find that in the case of people who have got technical knowledge of a subject which they want to study further, we do not insist on high educational qualifications, and such people are given scholarships.”

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Mr. L. K. TULASIRAM :—“ Will the hon. the Minister for Development be pleased to tell me whether there are any scholarships given to the students of the weaving community—I mean to the industrial community connected with weaving ? ”

The hon. Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—“ I am told, Sir, there are ”

Sriman BISWANATH DAS Mahasayo .—“ I did not want to get information that the students having technical knowledge of the subjects are given preference. What I want to know is this : whether students coming from communities which are engaged in these trades have any prior claim.”

The hon. Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—“ Other circumstances being equal, they will certainly be given preference.”

Sriman BISWANATH DAS Mahasayo :—“ Then, Sir, as regards the answer to clause (a), sub-clause (2), may I know whether the Government would think of training some students from among the fisher communities of Ganjam in the Technical Institute at Calicut as the fisherman in Ganjam with the immense possibilities in that district may be able to play a useful part ? ”

The hon. Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR :—“ If applications are received from them, I can consider the matter.”

Local Boards

Maintenance of trunk roads in South Kanara.

* 325 Q.—Mr J. A. SALDANHA : Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Local Self-Government and the hon. the Minister for Development be pleased to state—

(a) on what principle certain trunk roads are maintained by the Public Works Department, while others are handed over to the district boards ;

(b) which are the trunk roads in Malabar and South Kanara maintained respectively by the Public Works Department and the local board, and for what reasons ;

(c) whether Government have received representations from the District Board President and certain people from South Kanara and Mysore, including planters, asking for the conversion of the Mangalore-Charmadi road to the Mysore frontier into a trunk road ;

(d) what is the decision which Government have arrived at or the action which Government propose to take ;

(e) what is the comparative traffic on the Mangalore-Charmadi, Mangalore-Mercara, Tellicherry-Coorg and Calicut-Mysore frontier roads ; and

(f) whether it is proposed that Government should take over the maintenance of the Tellicherry-Manantoddy-Gudalur roads from the District Board and what action Government have taken or propose to take and for what reasons ?

A.—(a) Under the Madras Local Boards Act, 1920, all trunk roads (excluding portions situated within municipal limits) should be maintained by district boards. Some of these roads are, however,

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maintained by the Public Works Department for special reasons, such as military importance, difficulty of maintenance, etc., connected with each road.

(b) Malabar—

Maintained by the Public Works Department. (1) The Tellicherry-Coorg road.
(2) The Calicut-Mysore Frontier road.

Public Works Department maintain these roads because they are ghat roads and are of military importance.

Maintained by the District Board. (1) The Madras-Calicut road.
(2) The Gudalur-Calicut road.
(3) The Gudalur-Vayittiri-Calicut road.

South Kanara—

Maintained by the Public Works Department. Nil.

Maintained by the District Board. Mangalore-Mercara road.

(c) & (d) The hon. Member is referred to the answer to clause (c) of question No. 73 of 26th January 1927. The Government are carefully considering the question.

(e) The Government have no information.

(f) No such proposal is under consideration of Government at present.

Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—“The answer to clauses (c) and (d) is ‘the Government are carefully considering the question’. Have the Government received any reports on the subject, and if so, from whom? In reply to a previous question the Government stated that the matter had been referred to a committee. I want to know whether the committee’s report has been received and whether it is under consideration.”

The hon. Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN :—“The committee did not deal with this matter.”

Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—“Then, Sir, on whose report are Government considering the question?”

The hon. Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN :—“On the previous requests of the district boards concerned.”

Mr. P. C. VENKATAPATI RAJU :—“With reference to the answer to clause (a), it is said that difficulty of maintenance is one of the reasons. May I know what are those difficulties? Is it the cost?”

The hon. Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN :—“The hon. Member is quite right in his inference.”

Mr. P. C. VENKATAPATI RAJU :—“When the Government transfer these roads to the Public Works Department, are they giving the same amount of money for the maintenance of these roads, or granting something extra?”

The hon. Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN :—“I believe more money is probably being spent on the roads by the Public Works Department.”

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Mr. P. C. VENKATAPATI RAJU :—“ Will not the district boards be willing to maintain these roads if the extra amount is given to them ? ”

The hon. Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN :—“ That question has to be carefully considered.”

Mr. P. C. VENKATAPATI RAJU :—“ Is it not in the experience of the Government that management by the district boards is far more economical than by the Public Works Department ? ”

The hon. Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN :—“ I should like to have the matter enquired into before giving a definite answer.”

Mr. P. C. VENKATAPATI RAJU :—“ The first portion of the answer to clause (a) is that all trunk roads should be maintained by the district boards. Yet, before divesting the district boards of some portion of these roads, is the Government considering the proposals of the district boards with regard to these roads ? ”

The hon. Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN :—“ I think Government did consider their proposal.”

The RAJA OF RAMNAD :—“ Will the Government kindly consider the question of paying a little more to the district boards for the maintenance of these trunk roads, instead of continuing the present unsatisfactory system of paying a flat rate of Rs. 500 a mile ? ”

The hon. Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN :—“ I cannot give an answer to that question at present.”

The RAJA OF RAMNAD :—“ I am merely asking, Sir, whether the Government will kindly consider the question. If an assurance is given, I shall be perfectly satisfied.”

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—“ The hon. the Minister has said that he cannot give an answer to the question at present. It tantamounts to saying that he wants notice of the question. The hon. Member has to give notice of a question on the subject.”

Mr. P. C. VENKATAPATI RAJU :—“ Will the Government be pleased to have the matter considered even in cases where the Superintending Engineers and Executive Engineers recommend for extra grants ? ”

The hon. Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN :—“ That is a matter of finance. We will have to calculate the amount before we can give extra grants.”

Rao Bahadur C S. RATNASABAPATI MUDALIYAR :—“ With reference to the answer to clause (b), will the hon. the Minister say whether ghat roads in other districts also will be taken over by the Public Works Department; if not, whether increased grants will be given for the maintenance of the ghat roads ? ”

The hon. Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN :—“ That again is a matter of finance.”

Mr. MAHMUD SCHAMNAD SAHIB :—“ In answer to clause (b), the Government reply is that the Government maintain these roads because they are ghat roads, etc. Are the Government aware that the Mangalore-Charmadi road and the Mangalore-Mercara road are also ghat roads ? ”

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The hon. Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN :—" They are ghat roads. But it is very likely that they are not of military importance."

Mr. T. M. MOIDU SAHIB :—" May I know from the Government whether the Calicut-Cannanore road, which is of military importance, Cannanore being a military station, is not recognized as a trunk road? If military importance is the consideration, will they transfer this road to the Public Works Department now?"

The hon. Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN :—" I want notice."

Mr. MAHMUD SCHAMNAD SAHIB :—" May I know why the Government consider the Tellicherry-Coorg road as a road of military importance?"

The hon. Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN :—" I want notice."

Mr. MAHMUD SCHAMNAD SAHIB :—" Will the Government consider that the Mangalore-Charmadi and the Mangalore-Meroara roads are also roads of military importance?"

The hon. Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN :—" I shall have to consider that matter very carefully."

Rao Bahadur C. S. RATNASABHAPATI MUDALIYAR :—" I wish to know whether Government have got a list of roads of military importance?"

The hon. Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN :—" I am not sure, Sir."

Rao Bahadur C. S. RATNASABHAPATI MUDALIYAR :—" Will the Government be pleased to call for the information?"

The hon. Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN :—" Yes."

Depressed Classes

Technical scholarships to depressed class students.

* 326 Q.—Mr. G. R. PREMAYYA : Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state whether the Government have granted any scholarships to young men of the depressed classes for training in weaving and tanning?

A.—Since 1924 the Government have sanctioned the grant of five scholarships every year to pupils of the depressed classes for training in weaving. The Department of Industries have granted since 1922-23, forty-nine scholarships for the study of weaving in the Industrial schools. The majority of the recipients of these scholarships are Indian Christians belonging to the backward classes. Information is not available as to how many of these scholarships have been granted to depressed classes.

In 1922-23 a Kallar was granted a scholarship for study in the department of Textile Manufacture at the Victoria Jubilee Technical Institute, Bombay. No scholarships have been granted to members of the depressed classes for learning "tanning".

Mr. G. R. PREMAYYA :—" May I know from the hon. the Home Member whether Government have received any applications from Adi-Audhras and Adi-Dravidas?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—" I have no information."

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Mr. A. KALESWARA RAO :—" May I know whether any scholarships have been given to Adi-Andhras ? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—" The information is not available as to how many scholarships have been given to the depressed classes."

Mr. L. K. TULASIRAM :—" May I know what district this fortunate Kallar, who was given a scholarship for study in the department of Textile Manufacture, comes from ? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—" Notice, Sir."

Mr. S. N. DORAI RAJA :—" May I ask the hon. the Home Member whether this man has finished his course of study and whether he is employed in the Government service ? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—" I have no information."

Mr. S. N. DORAI RAJA :—" Will the hon. Member call for the information ? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—" Yes, Sir."

Mr. A. KALESWARA RAO :—" May I request the hon. the Home Member to see that special encouragement is given to the Adi-Andhras in the matter of the grant of scholarships ? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—" The request will be remembered, Sir."

Mr. L. K. TULASIRAM :—" Will the hon. the Home Member be kind enough to tell us when this scholarship to a Kallar was given? In what year ? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—" In 1922-23."

Emigration

Report of the Committee appointed to visit the Andamans.

* 327 Q.—Mr. J. A. SALDANHA : Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to place before the House the report of the Committee appointed to visit the Andaman islands and report on their fitness for the settlement of Mappilla prisoners with the orders passed thereon ?

A.—A copy of the report with a copy of the resolution of the Government of India thereon No. F. 188/24, Jails, dated 4th October 1926, is placed on the Council Table.*

Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—" Sir, this report has been placed before us to-day for the first time and we have not had the opportunity of studying it. Will the hon. the President allow supplementary questions to be put upon it to-morrow ? "

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The hon. the PRESIDENT :—“ I am sorry. Hon. Members are expected to be in their places an hour before 11 o'clock and that hour is intended for the study of necessary papers placed on the table.”

Andamans Colonization Scheme.

* 328 Q.—Mr. K. R. KARANT : Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(a) the class or classes of prisoners to whom the Andamans Colonization Scheme is open and the rules relating to it ;

(b) the total number of persons in the jails of the Madras Presidency who could have availed themselves of the scheme and how many of these are Mappillas ;

(c) the number of Mappilla prisoners who have availed themselves of it and the number of other prisoners who have done so ; and

(d) the number of Mappilla women who have been taken under this scheme to the Andamans and the number of Mappilla children who have been so taken ?

A.—(a) The scheme is open to Mappilla and non-Mappilla convicts in the Andamans and to Mappilla and non-Mappilla convicts in the Indian jails who volunteer to go and settle in the Andamans. There are no special rules applicable to the scheme but the policy underlying it has been explained in the Government of India resolutions No. F. 20 26, Jails, dated 27th February 1926, and No. F. 188/24, Jails, dated 4th October 1926. Copies of these Resolutions are placed on the Council Table. ^a

(b) The Government have no information.

(c) The number of Mappilla and non-Mappilla prisoners in Madras Jails who have so far availed themselves of the scheme is 16 and 25, respectively.

(d) The number of Mappilla women and children taken to the Andamans is 338 and 510, respectively.

Mr. MAHMUD SCHAMNAD SAHIB :—“ With reference to clause (c) of the answer, will the Government be pleased to say whether any attempts were made to persuade non-Mappilla prisoners also to go to the Andamans ? ”

The hon. Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—“ No, Sir.”

Mr. MAHMUD SCHAMNAD SAHIB :—“ Will the Government be pleased to state whether they have not used persuasion in the case of Mappillas to go to the Andamans ? ”

The hon. Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—“ Yes, Sir. In the case of their families.”

Mr. MAHMUD SCHAMNAD SAHIB :—“ May I know why they make a difference between the two classes of prisoners ? ”

The hon. Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—“ I shall consider the question of abolishing the difference, Sir.”

[16th March 1927]

Forests*Assignment of darkhast lands in Kollegal taluk.*

* 329 Q.—Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR: Will the hon. the Home Member and the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether Mr. Morris, a planter, or anyone else applied for a grant of about 100 acres on darkhast in Kollegal taluk;

(b) whether the local officers have reported that the grant of the land will seriously affect the water-supply of the Kundal river and that it has been already affected by the grants already made;

(c) whether the higher authorities of the Forest and Revenue departments originally refused the grant; and

(d) whether the application has been again renewed, and if so, with what result?

A.—(a) There were four applications for about 2 150 acres.

(b) A District Forest Officer and a Conservator reported to this effect. Their view is not shared by other Forest officers.

(c) Yes.

(d) The question of assignment has again been raised but has not yet been decided.

Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR.—“As regards the answer to clause (a), is it a fact that the four applicants were Mr Morris, Mrs. Morris and two others practically dependant on Mr. Morris?”

The hon. Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—“I understand so, Sir.”

Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR:—“Is it a fact that Mr. Cox, the Chief Forest Conservator, reported that this land should not be given?”

The hon. Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur.—“I do not remember the names, Sir.”

Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR.—“Is it not a fact that in addition to the then Chief Conservator two Collectors of the district, Messrs. Cox and Vernon, reported that the land should not be given?”

The hon. Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—“I want notice, Sir.”

Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR:—“May I know whether the statement in clause (b) that this view is not shared by other Forest officers is correct? May I know the Forest officer who says that this should be given?”

The hon. Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—“I am unable to give his name off-hand.”

Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR:—“Whether he went there or not, I only want to know whether he reported that this should not be done.”

The hon. Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—“We have no information, Sir.”

Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR.—“The information must be contained in the file. The recommendation of the predecessor of the present Chief Conservator must be in the file.

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“ With reference to the answer to clause (d), may I know when was this question last decided ? ”

The hon. Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—“ About six months ago.”

Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR :—“ May I know the special reasons for revising this order so soon after it was passed on the unanimous recommendation of the Revenue Department, the Public Works Department and the Forest Department ? ”

The hon. Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—“ There are no special reasons. An application has been made and we have not yet decided the question.”

Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR :—“ This application has been refused recently and in the ordinary course of things the second application should be rejected. Have these papers come before the Government ? ”

The hon. Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—“ Not yet.”

Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR :—“ Has the present Chief Conservator demi-officially recommended this application ? ”

The hon. Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—“ He has officially recommended the application.”

Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR :—“ Are not the papers now before the Government, then ? ”

The hon. Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—“ The papers might have been received by the Secretary to Government and it has to undergo some preliminary stages before it is finally placed before Government.”

Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR :—“ But the Government includes the Secretary to Government and the other officers and the answer to the question is given only in consultation with them. May I now at least know whether the Government have received the application from Mr. Morris and Company ? ”

The hon. Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—“ I understand that a report has been received from the Chief Conservator and that no application has been received directly by the Secretariat.”

Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR :—“ Is it then a fact that the Chief Conservator made the recommendation *suo motu* without receiving any application from them ? ”

The hon. Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—“ An application must have been made to the Chief Conservator.”

Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR :—“ Has not that application been forwarded to the Government ? ”

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Hardships of the ryots in South Kanara on account of wild beasts.

* 330 Q.—Mr. K. R. KARANT: Will the hon. the Home Member and the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government are aware that the ryots in the South Kanara district inhabiting its hilly parts are suffering great hardships on account of the wild beasts in the adjoining forests; and

(b) what steps the Government propose to take to ameliorate the same?

A.—(a) & (b) The hon. Member's attention is invited to the answer to Legislative Council question No. 854 asked by Mr. D. Manjaya Heggade on 2nd November 1925.

Mr. K. R. KARANT:—"Will the Government be pleased to state whether in view of the answer given to question No. 854, the condition of things has improved since?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—"Government have no information."

Mr. K. R. KARANT:—"Will the Government be pleased to make an enquiry?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—"Yes, Sir."

Famine*Action taken on the resolution regarding famine conditions in the Presidency.*

* 331 Q.—Mr. B. RAMACHANDRA REDDI: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) the action taken by the Government on the first non-official resolution of this Council regarding the famine conditions in the several districts of the Presidency; and

(b) if the Government have received any report on the famine conditions, whether it will be placed on the table of the House?

A.—(a) The Government have issued orders for the expansion of local funds works programmes with the aid of grants from Provincial Funds and for the starting of as many minor irrigation works as possible and the liberal grant of loans to ryots in the areas which have been more seriously affected by the conditions of the season. They have also sanctioned the grant of concession rates for the transport by rail of fodder to the area in which there is a serious scarcity of fodder. They have taken steps for the immediate starting of the work connected with the construction of the Guntur-Guruzala-Macherla Railway. All Collectors have been told that they should not be overstrict in the exercise of their discretion in determining what is constructive total loss under the remission rules and that they should not collect amounts which are likely to be remitted. The Government have already passed orders postponing to the next fasli the collection of kists in a number of villages and have instructed the Board of Revenue to submit all proposals for the postponement to the next fasli of the collection of kists

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wherever such postponement is necessary. Meanwhile the Collectors have, pending the orders of the Government on the question of postponement to the next fasli, postponed the collection within the fasli of kists wherever this measure has been found to be necessary. The advisability of throwing open forest reserves for the free removal of grass and the free grazing of cattle has also been impressed upon Collectors.

(b) The Government have not received any report that famine conditions prevail in any part of the Presidency.

Mr. B. RAMACHANDRA REDDI :—“ May I know whether Government have received any report that famine conditions do not prevail in any part of the Presidency ? ”

The hon. Mr. N. E. MARJORIBANKS :—“ This term ‘ famine conditions ’ seems to be capable of many different meanings. The rules provide that in certain circumstances test works may be opened and after that, if necessary, relief works. The whole question is one of the appreciation of local conditions by the responsible officers on the spot. When they think the local conditions justify such a course they may open test works and make a report. We have received no report as yet suggesting that test works should be opened. That is all that was meant by the answer. ”

* **The RAJA OF RAMNAD** :—“ What is the report that the hon. the Revenue Member says that he has not received ? ”

The hon. Mr. N. E. MARJORIBANKS :—“ The report which is prescribed under section 46 (b) of the Famine Code. ”

Diwan Bahadur P. C. ETHIRAJULU NAYUDU :—“ Will the hon. the Revenue Member tell us why deputy collectors have not been appointed for acquiring land required for the Guntur-Macherla Railway, and is he aware that on that account commencement of that work is being delayed ? ”

The hon. Mr. N. E. MARJORIBANKS :—“ I am surprised to hear they have not been appointed. I will look into the matter. Possibly they are in course of transfer. ”

Mr. S. MUTTAYYA MUDALIYAR :—“ With reference to the penultimate sentence in the answer to clause (a), may I ask the hon. the Revenue Member in what districts they have postponed the collection of revenue pending final orders ? ”

The hon. Mr. N. E. MARJORIBANKS :—“ Speaking from recollection, it is in Guntur, Bellary, and Anantapur districts. I do not recollect whether there is any other ? ”

Mr. S. MUTTAYYA MUDALIYAR :—“ May I ask the hon. the Revenue Member apart from the question of postponement of collection of kist to next year, whether greater strictness is not observed in the collection of kist this year than in the previous year, at least in one portion of the Tanjore district, namely, Nannilam taluk ? ”

The hon. Mr. N. E. MARJORIBANKS :—“ The hon. Member has put questions which suggest that it is so. Government are not aware of it. But I think that point was dealt with in the answer to his question. ”

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Mr. S. MUTTAYYA MUDALIYAR :—“ May I ask the hon. the Revenue Member whether the Government have received a memorial from the mirasidars of Nannilam saying that in that taluk attachments are made and that properties are ordered to be sold by the 13th of the month, whereas it is not done so in other places ? ”

The hon. **Mr. N. E. MARJORIBANKS** :—“ I must ask for notice ; I have not seen any such memorial.”

Mr. S. MUTTAYYA MUDALIYAR :—“ May I ask whether the question sent on that matter to the Council Office has not reached him ? ”

The hon. **Mr. N. E. MARJORIBANKS** :—“ I received one question. I remember having answered it. But I cannot say more offhand now.”

Mr. S. MUTTAYYA MUDALIYAR :—“ May I remind the hon. Member that during the discussion on the famine resolution in the beginning of January I mentioned this matter to him and he assured us on that occasion that he would look into the matter and ascertain ? Has he made enquiries on the matter ? ”

The hon. **Mr. N. E. MARJORIBANKS** :—“ The usual procedure on these occasions is that when a statement is made by the Member in charge that he will make enquiries in the matter, the Secretariat calls for a report on receipt of the proof of the report of the proceedings. Whether that has yet been done or not in this particular case I cannot say.”

Land Revenue

Alleged conversion of Adi-Dravidas of Selamanatham village.

* 332 Q.—**Mr. M. A. MANICKAVELU NAYAKAR** : Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that the American Mission has converted to Christianity some of the Adi-Dravidas of Selamanatham village in Vellore taluk, holding out promises of getting darkhast lands for them ; and

(b) if so, what steps the Government propose to take to prevent such inducements being held out for proselytisation ?

A.—(a) The Government have no information.

(b) Question does not arise.

Mr. M. A. MANICKAVELU NAYAKAR :—“ Sir, with reference to answer to clause (a), will the hon. the Revenue Member understand that the question is not put to elicit the mere answer ‘ the Government have no information ’ ? May I expect that he will make the necessary steps to get the information ? ”

The hon. **Mr. N. E. MARJORIBANKS** :—“ This question, Sir, suggests, to use a mild phrase, an undesirable course of action on the part of the Mission. Government are very loth to assume that it is true, unless the hon. Member will give us some information or facts which show that there is a case which the Government can make an enquiry about. If he will give anything of that sort we will consider the matter.”

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Mr. M. A. MANICKAVELU NAYAKAR :—" I am sorry I cannot hear anything of what the hon. Member said."

The hon. Mr. N. E. MARJORIBANKS :—" I am sorry, Sir, that my voice is not strong enough to reach all parts of the House. I said as the question imputed, to use a mild phrase, an undesirable course of action on the part of the mission, Government are not prepared to assume that there was any case for enquiry unless the hon. Member is prepared to give us a statement of the facts on which he bases his suggestion."

Mr. M. A. MANICKAVELU NAYAKAR :—" I will do so, Sir."

Mr. A. KALESWARA RAO :—" Are the Government aware that there is an impression in the country that these lands will be given on darkhast, and also the Labour department will help in the matter, if only they get recommendations from European missionaries ? "

The hon. Mr. N. E. MARJORIBANKS :—" I am not aware of it, Sir."

Mr. A. KALESWARA RAO :—" Will the Government try its best to see that such an impression is not created in the country by doing equitable justice between Hindu Panchamas and Christian Panchamas in all these matters ? "

The hon. Mr. N. E. MARJORIBANKS :—" We have certainly no desire to make any differentiation. It is a question more for my hon. Colleague, the Home Member."

Mr. C. S. RATNASABHAPATI MUDALIYAR :—" May I know whether in Coimbatore district certain disafforested lands were not assigned to Christian converts through the influence of missionaries ? "

The hon. Mr. N. E. MARJORIBANKS :—" That is quite possible."

Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR :—" May I not ask if Government will be pleased to get a statement as to the number of Christian Adi-Dravidas and non-Christian Adi-Dravidas to whom these lands were assigned in the various schemes ? "

The hon. Mr. N. E. MARJORIBANKS :—" I do not know whether action of that sort would not be encouraging the idea which one hon. Member deprecated previously."

Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR :—" Will the Government be pleased to look into this matter especially as regards the Coimbatore district where although nominally lands are given without any restriction by Government, in effect, a very large percentage of these lands are given to those following the Christian religion among Adi-Dravidas ? "

[Mr. B. Venkataratnam made some remarks in Telugu.]

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" Such a request is to be made at a later stage."

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Assignment of lands to ex-service men.

* 333 Q.—Mr. ABDUL HAMID KHAN: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) how many acres of land were reserved for ex-service men in each district, since April 1921 ;

(b) how many acres of such land have been occupied by ex-service men in each district up till now ;

(c) how many acres of such lands have been occupied but renounced or abandoned as unfit for cultivation ;

(d) how many ex-service men have so abandoned and whether they were given lands in substitution ; and

(e) how many acres of land are still available to be assigned to ex-service men ?

A.—(a), (b) & (e) A statement * containing the latest figures furnished by the Board of Revenue is appended to this answer.

(c) & (d) The Government have not the information.

Mr. ABDUL HAMID KHAN :—“ Will the hon. the Revenue Member kindly state if there were non-combatants also among the ex-service men to whom assignments of land were made ? ”

The hon. Mr. N. E. MARJORIBANKS :—“ I believe so, Sir. Up to a certain date assignments were made to non-combatants also.”

Mr. ABDUL HAMID KHAN :—“ May I know what that date is ? ”

The hon. Mr. N. E. MARJORIBANKS :—“ I should like to have notice ; I am not certain.”

Mr. ABDUL HAMID KHAN :—“ Is it not a fact that G.O. No. 870 was not published in the Gazette and hence, some of the non-combatants could not apply for the Government lands ? ”

The hon. Mr. N. E. MARJORIBANKS :—“ I must ask for notice.”

Mr. ABDUL HAMID KHAN :—In answer to questions (e) and (d), the Government say that they have no information. Will they be pleased to call for the information and place it before the House ? ”

The hon. Mr. N. E. MARJORIBANKS :—“ On the point mentioned, the Government itself would be very glad to have information. But we did not ourselves collect it because we were not sure that it could be collected without a great deal of enquiry. There is no register in the village accounts from which these particulars could be gathered. We would have to institute special enquiries, and I doubt whether such enquiries would be worth the trouble and the time they would take.”

Mr. ABDUL HAMID KHAN :—“ Is it a fact, Sir, that certain non-combatants were refused the grant of land although they were eligible for it ? ”

The hon. Mr. N. E. MARJORIBANKS :—“ It is a very general question, Sir. If the hon. Member will give a little more particulars perhaps I may be able to find out.”

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Mr. T. ADINARAYANA CHETTIYAR :—" May I suggest to the hon. Member .p "

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" No suggestion. Please put your question."

Mr. T. ADINARAYANA CHETTIYAR :—" Have 5,560 acres been assigned in North Arcot district ? "

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" The question has already been answered. Perhaps the hon. Member was not present when it was answered. It cannot be answered again for him."

Mr. T. ADINARAYANA CHETTIYAR :—" It is very important, Sir. It is a very large area that has been or is being sought to be assigned."

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" May I inform the hon. Member that a supplementary question to that effect was put and it was answered. It will not be allowed to be repeated."

Public Service

Government Order regarding qualifications for public service.

* 334 Q.—Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR : Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether a Government Order (No. 965, Public) has been newly issued providing a new standard of marks for holders of Secondary School-Leaving Certificate to be qualified for appointment to certain posts in the public services ;

(b) whether it is a fact that no such standard was fixed before and that several persons joined the service in the hope that there will be no such restriction on them ;

(c) whether the new Government Order is applicable to those who are now in service holding either acting or permanent appointment ; and

(d) whether memorials or representations have been received that the new Government Order should be made applicable only to those that may be entertained in service hereafter and not to those who are already in service, and if so, whether the Government have passed final orders, and to what effect ?

A.—(a) Yes ; G.O. No. 965, Public, dated 16th November 1926, has been issued and published on page 2312 of the *Fort St. George Gazette*, Part I, dated 23rd November 1926.

(b) No standard of marks was fixed before by the Government but such a standard could be fixed by heads of departments or others making appointments and had been fixed by the Board of Revenue for the Revenue Department ; the Government Order does not affect persons holding posts in Government service substantively when it was issued.

(c) The Government have issued orders in G.O. No. 137, Public, dated 14th February 1927, that men not in permanent service of Government on 16th November 1926 (the date of G.O. No. 965) who were accounted as " passed " under the rules as they stood before that date and had to their credit on that,

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date not less than one year's continuous and satisfactory service will not be affected by G.O. No. 965, Public, dated 16th November 1926.

(d) Representations have been received. Orders have been passed as stated in the answer to clause (c) of the question.

Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR :—"As regards (b), may I know if any head of the department or others making appointments except the Board of Revenue fixed the standard of marks?"

The hon. Mr. N. E. MARJORIBANKS :—"I must ask for notice of that, Sir."

Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR :—"As regards (c) will not the Government take into consideration the desirability of exempting people who have been for four or five years with some intervals in the Government service although they may not have put in one year's continuous service before that date? There may be small breaks."

The hon. Mr. N. E. MARJORIBANKS :—"I do not understand how a man who has put in 4 or 5 years' service cannot have put in one year's service."

Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR :—"I am sorry. The hon. Member will notice the word 'continuous' there. A man might have put in 4 or 5 years' service with small breaks and might not have put in *one year's continuous* and satisfactory service before that date. I will leave out 'satisfactory'. Will the Government make some concession in the case of people whose period of service has been very long, but unfortunately has not been a continuous one for one year before that date?"

The hon. Mr. N. E. MARJORIBANKS :—"I find it difficult to imagine such a case. But if there is such a case and if representations are made, the case will be considered."

Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR :—"There are a large number of cases of that kind."

Secretariat

Water-closets and privies for Secretariat staff.

* 335 Q.—Mr. J. A. SALDANHA : Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) what arrangements exist at present for water-closets and privies for the Secretariat staff—the gazetted and non-gazetted officers and the menial staff;

(b) if there is no provision for the non-gazetted officers and the menial staff within the premises of the Secretariat or within the Fort, why no steps have been taken for the purpose; and

(c) what provision is contemplated for the future?

A.—(a) There are no water-closets in the Secretariat. Lavatories with earth-closets and urinals are provided for gazetted officers. There is a urinal in the Secretariat compound for the use of non-gazetted officers. A latrine has been provided near the San Thome Gate for the use of both non-gazetted officers and menials.

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(b) There has hitherto been no underground water-borne drainage system in the Secretariat.

(c) A scheme for the extension of the Secretariat buildings is now under consideration. The provision of suitable water-closets and urinals on the water carriage system connected underground with the Madras City sewers is included as a part of this scheme.

Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—" As regards clause (c) may we know when we may expect the scheme to be carried out ? "

The hon. Mr. N. E. MARJORIBANKS :—" I am afraid I am no prophet."

Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—" May I enquire approximately when ? "

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" The hon. Member says he cannot say that."

Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—" Can he not give the approximate date ? "

The hon. Mr. N. E. MARJORIBANKS :—" The hon. Member knows that plans and estimates have to be prepared and sanctioned and provision has to be made in the budget and the work then only begun. The Government have no desire to delay the matter and there need be no fear in the mind of the hon. Member."

Settlement

Report of the officer entrusted with the resettlement of the West Godavari district.

* 336 Q.—Mr. D. NARAYANA RAJU : Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether the officer entrusted with the resettlement of the West Godavari district has submitted his proposals and if so, when ;

(b) when his report on the scheme will be published ; and

(c) what time, if any, will be allowed to the ryots to make their representations in the matter before the Government finally settles the lines of resettlement of the district ?

A.—The Government understand that the Settlement Officer's proposals are not yet complete. They will be published as soon as they are ready and sufficient time allowed for the receipt of representations thereon before the Government takes the subject into consideration.

Mr. A. KALESWARA RAO :—" May I know when the resettlement operations will come into force in the West Godavari district ? "

The hon. Mr. N. E. MARJORIBANKS :—" No resettlement will come into force till after the expiry of the present settlement and, as far as I recollect, the present settlement does not expire till 1930."

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Survey*Resurvey in South Kanara.*

* 337 Q.—**Mr. A. B. SHETTY**: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state whether resurvey will stop with Kasaragod taluk, or whether it will be carried on in other taluks also?

A.—The Government have not yet decided whether or no, any other taluk in South Kanara district should be resurveyed.

Mr. A. B. SHETTY:—"May I know when the Government will decide this matter?"

The hon. **Mr. N. E. MARJORIBANKS**:—"As I said yesterday, Sir, when this matter was being discussed, I should like to look into the matter in person, so that it will not probably be decided for some months to come, i.e., till I get an opportunity of going to South Kanara."

Mr. A. B. SHETTY:—"May I know whether the opinion expressed by the ryots at meetings called by the Divisional Officer as directed by the Government will be taken into consideration in deciding the matter?"

The hon. **Mr. N. E. MARJORIBANKS**:—"Of course, as they are chiefly interested in the matter."

Mr. MAHMUD SCHAMNAD SAHIB:—"May I ask the hon. the Revenue Member to state whether the Government are aware that the cost of the resurvey of the Kasaragod taluk was collected from the ryots?"

The hon. **Mr. N. E. MARJORIBANKS**:—"The hon. Member is under a misapprehension. The Survey Act lays down the items and the proportion of the cost to be recovered from the ryots. It comes to about one-sixth."

Mr. J. A. SALDANHA:—"What was the cost of the resurvey that fell on the ryots? I know the percentage. What is the cost that fell on the ryots in Kasaragod?"

The hon. **Mr. N. E. MARJORIBANKS**:—"It works out at Rs. 190 per square mile."

Mr. MAHMUD SCHAMNAD SAHIB:—"Are the Government aware that the cost of the original survey also was collected from the ryots?"

The hon. **Mr. N. E. MARJORIBANKS**:—"There again the hon. Member is under a misapprehension. At no time was the whole cost of survey collected from the ryots. The cost of survey marks, and labour was collected from them."

Mr. MAHMUD SCHAMNAD SAHIB:—"May I know which other part of the Presidency is also being resurveyed?"

The hon. **Mr. N. E. MARJORIBANKS**:—"I think I may say that considerable number of districts has been resurveyed. If he wants detailed information, I will communicate it to him."

Mr. MAHMUD SCHAMNAD SAHIB:—"Was the cost of resurvey collected from those districts also?"

The hon. **Mr. N. E. MARJORIBANKS**:—"To the extent which I have explained, it was collected."

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Village Establishment

Restoration of village monigars in Coimbatore district.

* 338 Q.—Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether several memorials have been received from ex-revenue monigars in the Coimbatore district that their posts which were abolished recently should be restored, and that they should be re-appointed to their original posts;

(b) whether any report has been called for from the Collector of Coimbatore and if so, whether any reply has been received from him and to what effect;

(c) whether much trouble and inconvenience have been felt by the village munsifs being asked to do the whole kist collection work in addition to other duties;

(d) whether the revenue monigars were made village munsifs in some taluks and they have been now restored to their posts, and whether in a few taluks the change has not been effected; and

(e) whether the Government have any proposal under consideration for restoring all or any of these revenue monigars to their original appointments?

A.—(a) One memorial has been received.

(b) A report was called for and received from the Collector of Coimbatore regarding the restoration of village monigars in his district. The Collector has expressed the view that the restoration of monigars is unnecessary now that a large number of villages have been re-divided into their original units under the scheme for the restoration of village officers.

(c) No complaint of any such trouble or inconvenience has been received by the Government.

(d) There were 86 revenue monigars in Coimbatore district. In consequence of the Salaries Committee's report of 1920, all of these officials in dry villages were abolished and 21 were retained in wet villages under the designation of water headmen. These still remain.

(e) It is not proposed to restore the posts abolished as unnecessary in consequence of the report of the Salaries Committee of 1920.

Civil Justice

Memorial from Civil Court Copyists.

' 339 Q.—Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government have received a memorial from the copyists engaged in the civil courts in this Presidency for taking them into regular service and giving them all facilities given to permanent establishment; and

(b) if so, whether the Government have passed final orders thereon?

A.—(a) Yes.

(b) The question is under the consideration of Government.

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Mr. P. SIVA RAO :—" May I know whether the High Court has made any recommendation in the matter ? "

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—" Yes, Sir."

Mr. P. SIVA RAO :—" Is it in favour of the memorial, Sir ? "

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—" Partly, Sir."

Mr. K. V. R. SWAMI :—" What were the recommendations, Sir ? "

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—" I may say that one of the recommendations, viz., increase of the minimum pay to Rs. 20 is in the budget. The other recommendations, viz., as to pensionable character of the appointments, and all that, are under consideration."

Mr. K. V. R. SWAMI :—" Were they accepted by the Government ? "

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—" As I said in answer to clause (b), the question is under consideration."

The RAJA OF RAMNAD :—" May I ask the hon. the Law Member whether he will consider the claims of copyists employed in other courts, such as revenue courts, etc. ? "

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—" The only memorials and the only recommendations that are under the consideration of Government just at this moment are the recommendations on the memorials of copyists in civil courts. One portion of it, viz., the increase of the minimum pay to Rs. 20 is incorporated in the budget."

Mr. P. SIVA RAO :—" May I know whether the proposal to take them into the regular service with the benefit of pension, leave, etc., has been accepted ? "

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—" The claim has been put forward that they should be taken into the regular service and treated as belonging to pensionable service and it is under the consideration of Government."

Mr. K. MADHAVAN NAYAR :—" May I know when the Government will pass final orders, whether it will be immediately after this or several years hence ? "

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—" Considering that this question itself arose four months ago from the High Court there is no question of several years. We hope to do it with all possible expedition."

Irrigation

Location of the Mettur dam.

* 340 Q.—Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR : Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to make a statement about

- (a) the final location of the dam of the Mettur project ;
- (b) the sum already spent on the scheme ;
- (c) amount of orders placed (1) in India and (2) in England ; and
- (d) the names of officers appointed to the work under the scheme ?

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- .A.—(a) The attention of the hon. Member is invited to the answer given to question No. 2 (59) given at the meeting of the 24th January 1927.
- (b) Rupees 8,43,639 to end of 1925–26. Exact figures of outlay during 1926–27 are not available, but the expenditure will probably be in the neighbourhood of 54 lakhs.
- (c) In India—about 12 lakhs.
In England—about £42,000.
- (d) The following officers are at present employed on the project :—

Head Works.

- (i) Mr. R. F. Stoney, Superintending Engineer, Mettur Circle.
- (ii) Mr. W. P. Roberts, Superintending Engineer in charge of plant and machinery.
- (iii) Mr. T. I. S. Mackay, Executive Engineer in charge of construction.
- (iv) Mr. C. G. Barber, Executive Engineer in charge of camps and buildings
- (v) M.R.Ry. L. Venkatakrishna Ayyar, Executive Engineer in charge of stores and tests.
- (vi) Mr. L. Henshaw, Electrical Engineer.

Canal System.

- (i) Mr. V. Hart, Superintending Engineer, Canal Circle.
- (ii) M.R.Ry. Rao Sahib R. Narasimha Ayyangar, Executive Engineer, No. I division.
- (iii) Mr. H. G. Jackson, Executive Engineer, No. 3 division.
- (iv) Mr. J. Mathai, Executive Engineer in charge of No. 2 division.

Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR :—“ The answer to clause (c) (2) is that £42,000 worth of orders were placed in England. May I have an idea as to when these orders were given ? ”

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—“ I want notice, Sir. But I may add that it was probably in 1925–26.”

Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR :—“ May I know for what materials these orders were given and by whom ? ”

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—“ They were for one excavator for the canal. I remember that and about the other particulars I want notice.”

Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR :—“ May I know whether the usual tenders were called for in this case ? ”

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—“ The procedure in cases of this sort is this, to send up requisitions to the High Commissioner who issues advertisements and calls for tenders.”

Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR :—“ May I know whether all the orders included in that amount, viz., £42,000 were made through the High Commissioner ? ”

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The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—“ One or two orders included in that sum were made through the Indian Stores Department at Delhi which also invites tenders and calls for quotations from various firms and the rest were made through the High Commissioner, Sir Atul Chatterjee.”

Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR :—“ Have not this Government power to give the orders in this country after calling for tenders without reference either to the Agent in Delhi or to the High Commissioner in England ? ”

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—“ They have ; but the advantage in the case of purchase of machinery of this kind is this : the Indian Stores Department have got a set of experts who advise the Government and point out any necessary modifications . A set of experts is also employed by the High Commissioner in England. It is for that reason that the Government thought it desirable and useful to employ the agency either of the Indian Stores Department which is especially constituted for this purpose, one of the principles of its constitution being to purchase materials as far as possible in India, or of the High Commissioner who has also got a set of experts qualified to advise in the matter.”

Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR :—“ As regards (d) may I know whether a Chief Engineer was appointed for the project recently ? ”

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—“ Yes, Sir. ”

Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR :—“ May I know when ? It is not found in the printed answer. ”

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—“ I think the order came out after the answer was sent to the Council Office. I believe it came out only just now. ”

Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR :—“ May I know whether an Indian Superintending Engineer was sent away and if so, why ? ”

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—“ It is a fact. I realize that the number of Indian officers employed on the Project may perhaps be increased with advantage. As a matter of fact, however, the list given in the answer is misleading. With regard to the Cauvery system Mr. Hart, Superintending Engineer, is only temporarily there. Mr. Swaminatha Ayyar will take his place almost immediately. In course of time the Indian personnel on the Mettur works will largely increase. ”

Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR :—“ May I know, unless it is confidential, whether one of the Superintending Engineers, an Indian, was sent away because he did something against the wishes or opinions of the Chief Engineer ? ”

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—“ That would not be a correct statement of facts, Sir. I do not wish to discuss it further. If notice of the question is given I shall be in a position to answer it in greater detail. ”

The RAJA OF RAMNAD :—“ In answer to clause (d) which asks for the names of officers appointed to the work under the scheme, a list of engineers alone employed under the scheme is given. May I know why the names of other officers employed under the scheme are not given ? ”

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The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—“ I do not follow the question. These are men who are supervising the works. If the names of the men who are at the bottom of the scale are required, a very long list will have to be prepared. Because there are a large number of overseers and assistants employed there and, if the hon. Members want a complete list of all the men employed on the Project, it will be furnished.”

Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR :—“ May I know what the work of the electrical engineer there is ? ”

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—“ As a matter of fact the electrical engineer is endeavouring to instal the electrical machinery for the purpose of working some of the apparatus. He is going to start a power-house there. The question was discussed as my hon. Friend from Coimbatore knows whether the source of water-power near Hogenkal can be utilized or not. That question has not been decided. But at the present moment, a small power-house will be set up with which some of the cruses will be worked.”

Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR :—“ In view of the fact that this electrical engineer was appointed on a high pay in connexion with the Megadhati water-power scheme which has now been abandoned and machinery substituted at the dam itself, may I know whether the Government propose to continue his services ? ”

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—“ One of the objects for which Mr. Henshaw was appointed was in connexion with that water-power scheme. If, as a matter of fact, that idea is given up, he will be replaced by another officer on a smaller salary.”

Mr. L. K. TULASIRAM :—“ Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state the names of the manufacturers with whom the orders for this £ 42,000 worth of goods were placed ? ”

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—“ There are several manufacturers, Sir ; and if the hon. Members want a list of them, I shall give them full details.”

Mr. S. MUTTAYYA MUDALIYAR :—“ May I ask the hon. the Law Member where the excavator is to be used ? ”

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—“ On the canal division, from the head works in the Tanjore district.”

Mr. S. MUTTAYYA MUDALIYAR :—“ When is the excavator to begin its operations ? ”

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—“ As soon as it arrives and starts the work.”

Mr. S. MUTTAYYA MUDALIYAR :—“ When is the water expected to com to the upland tracts in the Pattukottai taluk ? ”

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—“ That depends largely on this House.”

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Mr. S. MUTTAYYA MUDALIYAR :—“Will the hon. the Law Member consider the desirability of using manual labour alone in the place of these excavators for the coming seven years before which time water is not expected to flow in the canal?”

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—“In some places excavators would be tried. In the projects in Bombay and the Punjab excavators have been extensively used and they have greatly expedited the process of construction. Here we have not yet made up our minds as to whether we should use excavators only or use manual labour also in addition. An attempt will however be made to see how the excavator works. It is only after that a decision will be arrived at as to whether machinery alone or machinery plus manual labour (Mr. C. V. Venkataramana Ayyangar: ‘Or manual labour alone’) will be used for the purpose.”

Mr. S. MUTTAYYA MUDALIYAR :—“May I ask the hon. the Law Member whether the conditions in the Punjab and Bombay are the same as those in Tanjore as regards the nature of the soil and the availability of labour?”

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—“In Punjab they are not the same; but in Bombay they are.”

Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR :—“Backbay scheme?”

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—“Backbay scheme is not an irrigation scheme.”

Rao Bahadur C. S. RATHNASABAPATI MUDALIYAR :—“Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to advertise in all the dailies and call for tenders for all the stores necessary and for the work to be done?”

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—“That question will be borne in mind; but if the stores are to be purchased through the High Commissioner he will be given the discretion to advertise where he likes.”

Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR :—“Will an assurance be given that the case of purchase of pipes for the Coimbatore water-supply scheme will not be repeated here?”

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—“I do not quite follow the hon. Member; I do not know what it was.”

Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR :—“Without calling for tenders.”

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—“I may assure the hon. Members that we are not contemplating the purchase of machinery without calling for tenders. The usual practice is for the Madras Government to place their orders with the Indian Stores Department at Delhi or with the High Commissioner at London. They have got their own methods of advertisement and publicity and they not only advertise in England but also in the continent and in America. As a matter of fact, in a recent case it was pointed out that in the procedure adopted by the Indian Stores Department, the Madras firms were at a disadvantage compared with the firms in Northern India. The Indian Stores Department said that they would give wide publicity not only in upper India but also in the south when they were proceeding with their business.”

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Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR :—" Sir, since the Indian Stores Department have given orders for various companies for railway wagons for a period of five years, will the Government see that unnecessary machinery is not imported here very early ? "

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—" That will be noted, Sir."

Mr. S. ARPUDASWAMI UDAYAR :—" Which is cheaper, use of manual labour or use of machinery ? "

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" It is asking for an opinion."

Mr S. MUTTAYYA MUDALIYAR :—" May I ask the hon. the Law Member whether he has compared the cost of excavator with the cost of manual labour ? "

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—" We have been advised that the cost of excavator would be much less."

Mr. S. MUTTAYYA MUDALIYAR :—" Apart from the advice given to him, has he himself studied the question and satisfied himself to that effect ? "

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—" I may say that I have glanced over the figures furnished by the department. But I shall go into the matter again if the hon. Members so desire."

Mr. S. MUTTAYYA MUDALIYAR :—" May I ask the hon. the Law Member whether he would place those papers giving the comparative costs on the table of the House ? "

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—" That will be considered, Sir."

Mr. ABDUL HAMID KHAN :—" With reference to the answer to clause (c), may I know whether the goods purchased for those 12 lakhs were available in India or whether they were imported from abroad ? "

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—" I should like to have notice, Sir. But I believe they were mainly for wagons and trucks which were all available in India."

Mr. ABDUL HAMID KHAN :—" With reference to the £42,000 worth of goods ordered for from England, may I ask the hon. the Law Member whether the Government satisfied themselves that they could not get them in India itself ? "

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—" That was so. The rules of the Indian Stores Department, as the hon. Member himself knows, are to the effect that no goods should be purchased outside India if they are available in India."

Mr. L. K. TULASIRAM :—" Sir, will the hon. the Law Member cancel the orders for excavators if I place sufficient data before him to show that excavators are dearer than manual labour ? "

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—" While I cannot give an undertaking of that sort, I may say that any information that a prominent industrialist like the hon. Member who spoke last places before the Government will receive all the consideration that it deserved."

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* The **RAJA OF RAMNAD** :—“ If the difference between the cost of manual labour and machinery is not great, will the hon. the Law Member consider the advisability of going in for manual labour alone seeing that there is widespread famine in the Presidency ? ”

The hon. Sir C. P. **RAMASWAMI AYYAR** :—“ The matter will be considered, Sir.”

The hon. the **PRESIDENT** :—“ The time allotted for questions and answers having now expired, the Council shall proceed to the business of the day.”

UNSTARRED QUESTIONS

Public Health

Leper problem in Madras.

341 Q.—**MR. J. A. SALDANHA** : Will the hon. the Minister for Public Health be pleased to state—

(a) the number of lepers admitted in the Tirumani Leper Settlement during the year 1926 ;

(b) the number of lepers discharged from the settlement during the last three months ;

(c) the number of lepers awaiting admission approximately every day during the last three months ;

(d) the difficulties that are experienced in admitting them ;

(e) the number of lepers roaming about and begging at Madras ;

(f) the means of transport adopted and proposed to be adopted for conveying lepers from Madras and other places to the settlement and vice versa ;

(g) what measures have been and are being taken for the relief of lepers in Madras City and other parts of the Presidency ; and

(h) when Government are going to apply the Indian Lepers Act of 1898 to the Madras City and other parts of the Presidency ?

A.—(a) Nine hundred and seven lepers were admitted to the Tirumani Leper Settlement during the year 1926.

(b) One hundred and four lepers were discharged during the three months ending 31st January 1927.

(c) & (d) No lepers are awaiting admission. All known or certified to be suffering from leprosy, who may apply, are admitted, in so far as the accommodation of the settlement will permit.

(e) No information is available.

(f) The ordinary means of transport are employed in conveying lepers to and from the settlement. The Surgeon-General has been considering the question in consultation with the Railway authorities. The discussion has however led to no practical solution.

(g) The hon. Member is referred to the reply given to question No. 2106 asked in the Legislative Council on 15th July 1926. As a result of recent research work it is now held that the disease is infectious only in its early stages and that the burnt out and deformed cases are non-infectious. The diagnosis and treatment of the disease in its early stages is, therefore, regarded as

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the most important part of the campaign against leprosy. With this object in view the Government have included in the Civil Budget Estimates for 1927-28 a sum of Rs. 74,800 to enable them to open Dermatological clinics in the five Headquarter hospitals at (1) Tanjore, (2) Madura, (3) Vizagapatam, (4) Coimbatore and (5) Guntur. At these clinics out-patients will receive treatment and medical students will receive instruction in the diagnosis and treatment of the disease.

- (h) According to present knowledge of the disease the application of the Act would be of doubtful benefit to the public.

Co-operative Societies

Appointment of Honorary Assistant Registrars.

342 Q.—Mr. T. ADINARAYANA CHETTIYAR: Will the hon. the Minister for Development be pleased to state whether cases have come to his notice of defaulters in respect of loans borrowed from co-operative societies being appointed as Honorary Assistant Registrars when other persons who were not such defaulters were available and what steps he proposes to take to prevent such appointments in future?

A.—No.

Education

Grants-in-aid to private elementary schools in Ponnani taluk.

343 Q.—Mr. J. A. SALDANHA: Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Local Self-Government be pleased to place before the Council a statement showing the grants-in-aid given to the several private elementary schools in the Ponnani taluk, Malabar district, for 1923-24, 1924-25 and 1925-26 separately and the percentage by which they were reduced from the normal grant admissible under the rules, or increased as a reward for efficiency and to state—

- (a) the grounds on which the grants were reduced, if at all;
- (b) whether it is proposed to reduce the grants further in 1926-27; and if so, by how much and why; and
- (c) whether Indian Christian elementary schools have been refused practically any efficiency grant in the Ponnani taluk and if so, why?

A.—(a), (b) & (c) The Government are not in possession of the particulars required. The President, District Educational Council, Malabar, will be able to furnish them.

Minor Irrigation

Expenditure on protective irrigation works from 1921 to 1926.

344 Q.—Sriman BISWANATH DAS Mahasayo: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue and the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(a) the amount of money spent out of the Famine Insurance Fund either towards famine relief or towards the construction of protective irrigation works in each of the six years from 1921 to 1926; and

(b) the works (protective irrigation) on which money out of the Famine Insurance Fund was spent, with the name of the district in each of the years?

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- 4.—(a) Under rule 29 of the Devolution Rules the Madras Government are required to maintain a Famine Insurance Fund by contributing from their resources a fixed sum of Rs. 6.61 lakhs every year. The annual contribution is to be devoted to relief measures and to the construction of protective irrigation works, the balance not utilized for these purposes being credited to the fund. The balance at the credit of the fund is regarded as invested with the Central Government which pays interest thereon and is available for application when necessary for the objects mentioned above and also for the grant of advances to cultivators. The credits and debits to the fund are exhibited in the statement below :—

Statement showing the progressive utilization of the annual Famine Insurance grant and the balance thereof from the year 1921-22.

Year.	Grant of the year.	Receipts from sources other than the annual grant.		
		Interest on balances of the fund.	Interest on takavi loans granted from the fund.	Recoveries of famine expenditure.
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
	RS.	RS.	RS.	RS.
Accounts, 1921-22 ..	6,61,000	..	..	..
Accounts, 1922-23 ..	6,61,000	..	..	72
Accounts, 1923-24 ..	6,61,000	26,335	..	20,825
Accounts, 1924-25 ..	6,61,000	55,839	..	11,150
Accounts, 1925-26 ..	6,61,000	64,400	2,127	1,090
Revised Estimate, 1926-27.	6,61,000	94,400	..	2,600

Year—cont.	Expenditure.		Net credit (+) or debit (—) on account of takavi loans.	Net result of the year's transactions credit (+) debit (—).	Balance at credit from the commencement of the scheme to the end of the year.
	On famine relief.	On irrigation, navigation, embankment and drainage works.			
(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)	
	RS.	RS.	RS.	RS.	RS.
Accounts, 1921-22 ..	6,61,000	..	..	..	..
Accounts, 1922-23 ..	85,034	13,680	..	+ 5,82,358	5,62,358
Accounts, 1923-24 ..	16,875	13,534	..	+ 6,77,951	12,40,309
Accounts, 1924-25 ..	2,37,718	37,815	— 2,66,687	+ 1,85,574	14,25,883
Accounts, 1925-26 ..	2,896	19,434	+ 10,225	+ 7,16,512	21,42,395
Revised Estimate, 1926-27.	1,00,000	..	+ 2,56,432	+ 9,14,462	30,56,857

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(b) It will be seen from column (7) of the statement in the answer to clause (a) that expenditure was incurred on irrigation, etc., works during the years 1922-23 to 1925-26. Details are given below :—

Works.	1922-23.	1923-24.	1924-25.	1925-26.
	RS.	RS.	RS.	RS.
Rushikulya system, Ganjam.	5,719	8,781	28,928	13,208
Mopad system, Nellore ..	5	..	..	..
Bhavanasi tank, Guntur ..	..	..	3,852	1,094
Surveys of projects (Gauge readings, etc., in the several parts of the Presidency in connexion with the investigation of projects).	7,936	4,753	5,035	5,132
Total ..	13,680	13,534	37,815	19,434

[Note.—An asterisk (*) at the commencement of a speech indicates revision by the Member.]

II

MOTIONS ON THE BUDGET FOR 1927-28.

DEMAND II—EXCISE—cont.

* Mr. SAMI VENKATACHALAM CHETTI :—“ Mr. President, Sir, in view of the importance of the discussion on this demand I request you to allow me a little more time than you have prescribed for speeches on the motions.”

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—“ Will the hon. Member finish his speech in ten minutes to-day ? ”

* Mr. SAMI VENKATACHALAM CHETTI :—“ Fifteen minutes, Sir ? ”

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—“ Yes.”

* Mr. SAMI VENKATACHALAM CHETTI :—“ Sir, I move—

‘ that the allotment of Rs. 58,400 for Excise Commissioner be reduced by Rs. 100.’

“ Sir, from the year 1921 the Government have been playing with this very serious problem, appointing committees, examining witnesses, drafting reports, and revising them and at last it reached the culminating point in the shape of a Government Order which was issued in September last. While dealing with the resolution passed by the Legislative Council, the Government have scanned the division list in a manner that would be most suitable to support their most criminal unwillingness to foster the cause of prohibition. They very conveniently ignore the fact that among those who remained neutral in that division, most of them were for total prohibition. The Government were fully aware of this fact. Still, to say that the Legislative Council did not give a proper lead in this matter seems to me to treat this question in a very light-hearted manner. I am very glad that the country has given the Legislative Council a very proper lead by overthrowing the last Ministry from the Treasury benches. I hope, Sir, that the present Ministry will see the significance of that vote in formulating their policy with regard to this question. No Government—it may be taken from me—

[Mr. Sami Venkatachalam Chetti] [16th March 1927]

will be tolerated which declines to tackle this question seriously. Madras has the disgraceful notoriety as a province which returns the largest excise revenue, of possessing the largest number of shops and consuming the largest quantity of arrack, country liquors and toddy. Within a period of 25 years the revenue has increased from 186 lakhs of rupees to nearly Rs. 5 crores. Madras has nearly one-fifth of the total number of shops in all the provinces put together. A place on the Treasury Bench will be absolutely worthless if it means co-operation with a Government which aims at the impoverishment and emasculation of the people by propagating drinking. The increase in excise revenue is an awful feature of the present administration. Craving for drink is very often the result of depressing mentality caused by ill-housing, ill-feeding and of the depressing sight of starving wives and children. So, the increase in excise revenue has a most miserable story to tell of the chronic poverty of this Presidency. The Government Order dismisses the prohibition proposal as impracticable because they say that 'the question is not only provincial and imperial but also international,' to quote the very words of the Government Order. It amounts to this: we have to wait until the whole world wants, on one fine morning, total prohibition. Until that time, the Madras Government cannot think of introducing total prohibition. Even then there is this contingency: Sir Patro who is responsible for this Government Order may dissent and that will be enough justification to say that total prohibition cannot be introduced because it is not universally adopted.

"After dismissing the prohibition theory with those laconic expressions and with one jump, the Government Order attempts to meet the practical difficulties in introducing total prohibition. We can hardly credit a Government with views such as those referred to with any sincerity to deal with the problem of meeting the practical difficulties. The Government Order says that the main difficulty is in respect of finance. Now is the opportunity afforded to the present Ministry, by the remission of provincial contributions. It will never recur again. If you lose this opportunity I do not know whether Madras will ever launch upon total prohibition, or even partial prohibition.

"Next, the Government Order attacks local option. It argues that in countries where local option has been introduced, it has not resulted in the reduction of consumption. It seems to me that to say in this fashion that there is no decrease in the consumption of drink in other countries where local option has been introduced and that illicit traffic will increase, is to argue in a very vicious circle. It is very difficult to speak with moderation on the observations of the Government Order in regard to the reduction in the number of shops. The Government Order says the Excise Commissioner points out that there has already been a drastic reduction in the number of shops in this Presidency and the increased excise crime shows that the stage has been reached beyond which further reduction is inadvisable. Examining the statement, we find that between 1919-20 and 1923-24 there has been a reduction of 65 shops in country spirits. The reduced number is still more than Bombay by 4,400 shops, more than Bengal by 5,000 shops and more than United Provinces by about 2,400 shops. For every 7,000 of the population of the Madras Presidency there is a shop here, while in Bengal there is a shop for every 47,696 of the population, and in Bombay there is one shop for every 9,816."

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Mr. P. L. MOORE:—" May I know the period during which the hon. Member says that there has been reduction in the number of shops ? "

* Mr. SAMI VENKATACHALAM CHEITI :—" There was a reduction of 65 shops between 1920 to 1925 Madras had, in 1923-24, 10,531 toddy shops as against 1,076 in Bombay. Do the Government say that it is inadvisable to reduce further the number of shops ? It is useless to argue with such a Government.

" Dealing with the question of the restriction of the hours of sale, I fear the Government are contemplating to extend the hours instead of restricting them. They say that restriction has not improved matters.

" Then the Government go to Licensing Boards. The Government find some solace in them because they are continuing the existing policy. They feel that because there are high licensing fees, there will be decrease in consumption. On the other hand, along with increased licensing fee, there has been also increase in consumption. As a matter of fact, the increase in consumption has been by nearly 20 per cent since the high licensing fee system has been introduced in this Presidency. I would rather advise the Government to declare ' hands up ' at once and leave the matter to be dealt with by others. The culminating point was reached when the Government refused to withdraw the circular to Public Health Officers issued in regard to the propaganda against drink. In this connexion, it may be useful to know what is being done in England. Mr. Kelynaek observes in his book ' The Drink Problem of To-day '.

' Nothing short of a steady, co-ordinated endeavour by the various agencies promoting public health, social welfare and temperance will produce the desiderated dynamic to awaken an interest in themselves on the part of the new democracy which is slowly evolving from a servile state, due in great measure to ignorance and apathy dependent on alcoholic narcotics. There must be closer association between educational temperance, organization and those operating in matters of sanitation and public health.'

" Now, coming to the constitution of the Excise Licensing Boards, I must say that a most vicious innovation has been made. Nowhere could we see Excise Licensing Boards having among their members, those representing licensees. Now we have got in Madras the example of Excise Licensing Boards with licensees on them when we are fighting against drink. I know of practical instances of the licensee members taking the application that has been preferred to the Collector and getting the signature of every other member of the Board. To have representatives of licensees sitting along with others who have got to fight against drinking is a most mischievous innovation that could ever have been thought of, in connexion with the constitution of the Licensing Boards.

" The Government seem to regard that the restrictions that have been placed upon the hours of sale have not been very effective. I would rather charge the Government with having been very lax. I know of instances where respectable people have pointed out cases where the restrictions were overruled by the renters and no action has been taken against them. There is one redeeming sentence in the Government Order which is, that they will accept the principle of removing these shops from the vicinity of cheries. They only accept the principle, but they fail to put it into practice. Any number of instances have been brought to the notice of the Government. So far as the

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City of Madras is concerned, there is not a single shop the location of which is in conformity with the rules and restrictions laid down in the Excise Manual. The location of every shop is against the rules of the Excise Manual. It is laid down that a shop should not be within the vicinity of a church or a temple. You will see in Madras that there is a shop to the right side of a church or to the left side of a temple or just before a Model School. It is simply shutting one's own eyes when it is stated that these instances have not been brought to the notice of the Government. Any one can see that year after year, in instances after instances, it has been the practice of the department to override the representations both of the Licensing Boards and also of the public. We therefore ask the Government now to disown the Government Order they issued in September last, to disapprove of the sentiments contained therein and to declare their future policy with regard to this very serious question, whether they are going to take it up in right earnest and introduce prohibition by definite and successive stages or not. Much would depend upon the manner in which this question is viewed by the Government."

* Diwan Bahadur M. KRISHNAN NAYAR :—" Sir, the Justice party is no longer in power and Sir Patro is no longer the Minister for Excise. Nevertheless, they act on the brains of the Leader of the Swarajya Opposition. They act like a nightmare upon him during day-time and during nights also. Though the party has been out of power for the last four months and Sir Patro has ceased to be Excise Minister for that time, the hon. the Leader of the Swarajya Opposition is apparently thinking only of Sir Patro. I am very sorry for the Justice party and Sir Patro putting the Swarajists in that uncomfortable position."

Mr. SAMI VENKATACHALAM CHETTI :—" It is not uncomfortable ; it is quite comfortable."

* Diwan Bahadur M. KRISHNAN NAYAR :—" He says that he is comfortable ; but his utterance and behaviour say otherwise."

" I shall go to the question under consideration at once. I do not want to go into irrelevant matters. In fact, those portions of my hon. Friend's speech which related to the Justice party and Sir Patro are really irrelevant. However, I do not wish to proceed further. I shall proceed to consider the question before the House, viz., the excise policy of the Government."

12-15
p m. " My Friend Mr. Sami Venkatachalam Chetti stated that the country will not tolerate any Government which does not deal seriously with this question. I thought he held out a threat to the present Excise Minister that if he did not tackle this question of total prohibition very soon, though gradually, he would meet with some serious fate. Let us hope, and I, on behalf of my party, do hope that he will actually carry out his threat to the present Ministry which is really fed out of the hands of the Swarajya Opposition, that they will be turned out of their office, if they are not able to carry out this impracticable policy of total prohibition within a very short time."

Mr. SAMI VENKATACHALAM CHETTI :—" You say it is impracticable."

* Diwan Bahadur M. KRISHNAN NAYAR :—" And I hope also that the Excise Minister who, as I said, is really depending for his life as Minister

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and for the lives of his two colleagues as Ministers upon the sweet will and pleasure of the Swarajist Opposition, will carry out the policy of the Swarajya party."

Mr. S. SATYAMURTI:—"So that you may come back here!"

* Diwan Bahadur M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—"As for the matter of that, Sir, I may say --if my friend interrupts me like that--that we, the Members of the Justice party, have decided that hereafter we shall not accept office. (Laughter.) (A voice: In the next Council?). It may be in the next Council but we have come to the decision that we shall not accept office, just like the Swarajya party; so that again need not act as a nightmare on my friend."

"Now, Sir, the policy of the Swarajist Opposition is this: they won't accept office themselves; they have not accepted. . ."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT:—"The hon. Members have to discuss the excise policy." (Laughter.)

* Diwan Bahadur M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—"As I said, Sir, I myself saw the irrelevancy of all these things, and I think I shall have an opportunity of going into these things in greater detail when the proper head under the budget comes up for discussion."

"Now, Sir, to come to the excise policy of this Government. The Second Minister, my Friend Mr. Ranganatha Mudaliyar, declared in one of his speeches at Rajahmundry recently the programme of his party. As one of the items of that programme he declared the attainment of total prohibition by definite and gradual stages; and what that stage is and what that definiteness is he has already explained by the vote which he gave in this Council in February 1926, when this question was discussed. What he voted for on that occasion was that total prohibition should be reached or brought about within a period of ten years from then. Let us take it, Sir, that he will stick to that programme and to his opinion expressed on that occasion, and that by definite and gradual process he will bring about total prohibition in a period of ten years. Let us see, Sir, now what the programme of my Friend Mr. Arogyaswami Mudaliyar is, who is directly responsible for the administration of this portfolio. In the speeches which he was making in different parts of the country immediately after he accepted office, he said that he was studying the question. It is remarkable, Sir, it is curious, that a Minister should have accepted office without knowing his own programme relating to the portfolio which he was taking charge of. But, Sir, let that go. For the first two months he was studying the question; but his later utterances show that he has completed his study. What is the result of that completion of that study? He said that the educated portion of the people of this Presidency consisted of only 5 to 10 per cent, the rest were uneducated and that there was no demand from about 90 per cent of the population. That is the way in which he is reported to have said, i.e., that there was no demand from the people, or a majority of them, for total prohibition. Then, Sir, he said in another speech which he made at Tanjore that in a general way he accepted the programme laid down by his party. He refers to the programme previously laid down by Mr. Ranganatha Mudaliyar. I do not know what he means by 'in a general way'. 'In a general way I accept the programme laid down by my party' and he adds—these are his very words, Sir

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according to the report of his speech which appeared in the newspapers—‘I am myself for total prohibition, but it is not in sight. It is not a practicable proposition’. That is what he said; and even the other day on the floor of this House he said that he would introduce total prohibition very cautiously, very gradually and in such a manner that he might not be compelled to retrace any step that he might take. To sum up then, his idea of total prohibition is that it must be introduced at some distant imaginary date which cannot be now fixed and which is not now in sight. So that, Sir, one Minister says that total prohibition should be introduced in ten years and another Minister says that it should be at a distant date. The House of Ministers is divided against itself and the natural result is that it is bound to fall.

“Sir, with reference to our policy, i.e., the policy of the party on behalf of which I have the honour to speak, is this. That policy has been laid down in February 1926. We are not visionaries, we are not dreamers, we are practical men and we know that this is a serious problem. We know that it may not be possible to get rid of Rs. 5 crores in the twinkling of an eye. It is impracticable, it is absolutely impossible. Administration cannot be carried on; but we know also that our goal should be total prohibition. We have also passed a resolution to this effect, viz., that total prohibition should be brought about gradually and we have fixed the period at twenty years. What does that mean? It means this, that within twenty years, the whole of this five crores should be wiped out and that other sources of revenue should be found out, to fill the gap. That means on an average that it is possible to decrease the excise revenue gradually during a period of twenty years when other sources of revenue will take its place. That is the policy which we have laid down, and that is the policy which we think is practicable. But my friends, and particularly Mr. Ranganatha Mudaliyar, who was of the same opinion and who is of the same opinion as my Swarajya friends in the Opposition who have laid down their policy, namely, that total prohibition should be brought about in ten years has an opportunity now. Let him carry it out. My Friend Mr. Sami Venkatachalam Chetti has threatened that they could not exist there, that their destruction as Ministers was inevitable if they did not carry out that policy. That means, Sir, that immediately this year, one-tenth of the total excise revenue should go.

Mr. Sami Venkatachalam Chetti rose to speak.

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—“Is it on a point of order?”

MR. SAMI VENKATACHALAM CHETTI :—“It is on a point of correction, Sir.”

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—“Is it on any statement made by the hon. Member being mistaken by the hon. Member speaking?”

MR. SAMI VENKATACHALAM CHETTI :—“My hon. Friend is making a statement which is not accurate.”

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—“I shall give an opportunity to the hon. the Leader of the Opposition at the end, if he so desires to make any statement that he likes.”

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* Diwan Bahadur M. KRISHNAN NAYAR :—“ What I was saying was this : According to the policy of the Swarajya party, if total prohibition is to be brought about in a period of ten years, half a crore or Rs 50 lakhs should be immediately wiped out. I believe that my hon. Friend the Finance Member, though not in public at least in private, will have something to say about this to his colleagues. Sir, they are a happy family. That is what was said in one of the public functions of the European Mercantile Association the other day. It was stated so by some one responsible, and I believe they are a happy family, and I am also very glad that they are a happy family. I hope their happiness will not be disturbed on a discussion of this excise policy of the Ministers. We shall be happy, Sir, to see if it is practicable—I do not myself think it is practicable—that total prohibition is brought about within ten years. These are the dreams of visionaries who in season and out of season speak of diarchy and condemn diarchy in general terms, but who support the Ministry in all possible ways. So far as the Ministers are concerned, their hearts are very good. Let us see whether it is possible for the Ministers to carry out the policy which they have outlined. That is all I have to say, Sir, and I am afraid I have already exceeded my time.”

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—“ As the debate promises to be very interesting, I want to allow ten minutes to each of the Members who wish to speak hereafter.”

* Mr S. ARPUDASWAMI UDAYAR :—“ Mr. President, Sir, my Friend the Leader of the Opposition has been reading a homily on the acts of commission and omission of the party which was once in power. I would ask the House, Sir, to weigh well and consider dispassionately the following facts. The old Ministry began their career under circumstances which were very trying. They began with deficit budgets which necessitated retrenchment, the setting up of the Geddes axe to relentlessly hack and hew, mangle and mutilate in the various departments, which necessitated the exploitation of all the available sources of revenue, with the result that we had the raising of the stamp fees, the court fees, the registration fees and so on and so forth. Sir, these were followed by a balanced budget and by one with a surplus in consequence of the remission of a small portion of the Provincial contribution. Therefore, there was then every temptation, every inducement to raise the revenue and to refrain from excise reform. Nevertheless, there was a steady decline in the number of shops, in the consumption of arrack and toddy which the hon. the Third Minister admitted the other day. There was the weakening of the strength of the liquor sold, the regulation of the hours of sale and the raising of the price of liquor and, what was more, the introduction of an experiment, namely, prohibition in the Nilgiris and also in certain taluks of the Presidency. Now, Sir, does not the Excise Minister deserve credit amidst such trying circumstances for having carried out the pledge and ventured on an experiment or experiments? Sir, my Friend the Leader of the Opposition knows that I am not a believer in total prohibition. I must frankly state that I am not in favour of heedlessly and needlessly interfering with individual liberty, of invoking the aid of law, of the myrmidons of police and excise for hauling up men before the law courts for the application or enforcement of a new set of sections, added to our already swollen criminal jurisprudence and branding as criminals respectable men who know very well how to impose upon their lives necessary restraints and obligations in regard to articles of food and drink. But, Sir, I am a believer in a policy

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of abstention, even in total abstention from intoxicants, for all practical purposes, and in regard to large sections of the people, abstention brought about gradually and by milder methods of persuasion, by redoubled temperance work, abstention brought about by the removal of temptations by the provision of innocent counter-attractions and inducements. I am in favour of that kind of abstention. If, therefore, I join hands with my Friend the Leader of the Opposition and insist upon a clear and definite statement of excise policy, it is precisely for reasons which differ *toto casu* and are poles asunder from those urged by some hon. Members who have imported into this question their religious beliefs and prejudices, who speak with a holy horror and indignation of a thing which is harmless in itself, as if it were essentially and inherently evil when in reality the evil lies in the individual or the man who makes a bad or unjustifiable use of a gift of Almighty God.

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"Therefore, Sir, I support this resolution because I think that reform is possible on sound lines on the only right lines I have indicated and there is a general feeling that a further step should be taken, the times favouring the adoption of such a course, and for the first time a great surplus budget raising hopes which admit of progressive fulfilment. I advisedly use the word 'progressively' because in dealing with such matters we must never lose sight of the simple psychological fact, a simple fact of human experience, viz., that we are dealing not with inanimate objects, not with irrational creatures, but with rational beings, with men who have free will and judgment and are passionately fond of liberty."

* Mr G HARISARVOTTAMA RAO :—Mr. President, Sir, I should not have risen in my seat to-day, and I should have reserved myself for another occasion, but for the fact that I felt I was bound to sound a note of warning with regard to the policy that the Government has taken to pursue in this matter. That arises out of the fact that the Government in its last Administration Report made fantastic endeavours to prove that their excise policy had helped in this direction: 'a decrease of drink', 'a fall of drink'. They not only made that endeavour but also made the further fantastic endeavour of throwing the blame upon non-co-operators for increase of crime, as they call it, with regard to illicit manufacture of drink. In the last Administration Report for 19:5-26, Chapter 10, you will find that the Government make a claim that from 1912-13 onwards up to date, drink has gone down, because they say that in per of gallons the consumption has fallen to a certain figure. I want to examine, Sir, the exact implication of that statement. True, the consumption has fallen, but is it due to the policy of the Government? I would ask how? If you look at the figures, you will find that the fall was not gradual; from 1912-13 to 1920-21. It varied from year to year, increased and decreased. From 1920-21 up to date the fall has been definite and has been gradual. Does that prove that the policy of Government has been at the bottom of the improvement or does it prove that the non-co-operation movement has had its good effect? I ask, Sir, whether the framer of this report meant it seriously when he said that the consumption fell from 1920-21 and at the end of that year the non-co-operation movement started, which had as one of its nominal objects the reduction of drink. 'Nominal object'! Was it the nominal object of non-co-operation that reduced drink? Even a man like Mr. Rushbrook

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Williams who writes the Report on the Administration of India for the Government of India admitted that after all the non-co-operation movement had some aspects which were timely for the country and one of the objects of the non-co-operation movement which had his approval was this, the stoppage of drink, if I remember right.

“ Now, Sir, again, the charge that has been made against non-co-operation, that it led to increase of offences of illicit manufacture is shabby. From 1912-13 to 1919-20, the number of cases had developed from 979 to 1,716, and in 1920-21 the cases dropped to 1,408 ; that was the year of non-co-operation. Then again, the next year, they rose to 1,430. For the moment granting that they rose from 1,408 to 1,430 and granting also that the rise was due to the non-co-operation movement, was it due to the movement itself or was it due to the vigilance of the officials who wanted to sling mud at the non-co-operation movement ? As a matter of fact, it is an open secret that in the whole of this country, at any rate in the whole of this Presidency, the Abkari and Excise department as it was then and as it is now, encourages actually some of these offences and sometimes foists these offences and sometimes manufactures them. And now how do the Government expect illicit manufacture to stop ? As long as the Government make illegal gain, and as long as they get a share from this pernicious sale of drink, as long as it stands as an example for making an estate out of this trade, how can they prevent the criminally inclined amongst the people from illicitly engaging in the same trade and making an estate out of it for themselves ? The only remedy to my mind is total prohibition, though my hon. Friend from Malabar and his party may think that prohibition is merely an ideal and that it cannot be achieved.”

Diwan Bahadur M. KRISHNAN NAYAR :—“ On a point of personal explanation, Sir, I never said that total prohibition was an ideal that could not be achieved.”

* Mr. G. HARISARVOTTAMA RAO :—“ Very well, Sir. If my hon. Friends under the gangway feel with me that prohibition is the ultimate goal, or the ultimate weapon by which our aim can be achieved, they would vote with us and not differ from us.

“ Now, I was speaking of the steady increase of crime according to the Government report. From 1920-21 onwards up to date there was an increase of crime, as they say, from 1,716 to 2,208. Shall I in the same way tell them that from 1912-13 to 1920-21 the increase had been from 979 to 1,716 ? Shall I in the same way assert that the system of Government which worked in that direction of encouraging this kind of criminality was equally responsible, more responsible, totally responsible, for the increase of crime and for the increase of drink in this country amongst the masses ? It is time that those responsible for the administration of excise took note of the way in which these Government reports are manufactured. There are some gems in this peculiar report. For instance, it says : ‘ The abolition of the post of Deputy Commissioners and the reduction in the number of Assistant Commissioners also have operated to reduce the efficiency of the supervision.’ There is the hankering for higher offices, for higher posts, for the creation of jobs, for the creation of berths for relatives and friends eventually. Now, I wish that that kind of hankering does not recur hereafter in the administration of excise, at any rate.

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"Now, Sir, we have been told that the abolition of circles increased unlicensed sales in some places. Shall I ask the Government Benches to tell me if unlicensed sales are not going on every day in the mufassal? What effective measures, may I ask, are being taken to check such unlicensed sales?"

"Co-operation of all of us is called for in this report, for the attempts of Government to prove fruitful. Certainly, we on this side have always been prepared to extend that co-operation. We have picketted, we have gone to jails, we have suffered imprisonment that the bureaucracy was pleased to inflict on us for the cause that we have at heart, for the ideals that we and the Justice party and everybody concerned have had at heart, and yet we are accused of not having co-operated. Then, Sir, may I point out also another aspect of it? The decrease in the number of shops, the rise in prices and all that sort of thing has had absolutely no value in putting a stop to this drink habit or of decreasing it in any material manner. Witnesses before the Committee, man after man, gentleman after gentleman, said that this had no value, and the authorities who were entrusted with the administration of the department concerned, some of them did opine that mere reduction of shops or mere enhancement of rates would not lead either to prohibition or to mitigation of the drink habit. Sir, it is for those who are in charge of the administration to find out what they will do with regard to reducing the drink habit, if they are not prepared to take the advice of the opposition here—the advice that there shall be total prohibition within a measurable distance of time, say five or ten years. If they are not prepared, it is their duty to tell us, in view of the fact that all measures so far taken have proved futile, and absolutely inadequate, what they really propose to do in this matter."

* Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR :—"Mr. President, Sir, I rise to support this motion for a cut of Rs. 100 in the salary of the Excise Commissioner. The motion has been raised to express our disapprobation, the disapprobation of those who disapprove of the policy of the present Minister. We are not very much concerned with the policy of the ministry that is not existing at present; but only with the policy of the Ministers who are now in office."

Mr. S. SATYAMURTI :—"That is the trouble."

Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR :—"That may be trouble to you, not to me. Here I am to discuss the policy of the Minister who is now in charge of the particular subject. He has been, Sir, touring round the country a good deal of late. In some of the speeches made by him, he has attempted to make declarations of what his policy was going to be. Such of these declarations, as still remain without being contradicted or explained away by him, have been, I should say, of a most retrograde character and the pronouncement of his policy which he made on the floor of this House has been no better. He accepts, Sir, a thing which was accepted by the Government even before his advent into it, viz., that total prohibition is the ultimate goal of Government. But, Sir, he says—I am quoting from his own speech—that he deprecates the placing of any time-limit for the attainment of this goal. I ask the hon. Members of the Swarajist party, whether this statement meets with their approval,

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"Well, Sir, I am a new comer but I see amongst the Swarajists several people who have been here before, and they would remember, Sir, what took place in the month of February 1926. That section of the House from which the hon. the Second Minister comes put it forward as a practical suggestion—the words 'practical suggestion' I believe were then used by the hon. Member for the University—that within a period of ten years the whole of this province should be made dry. Another section of the House, perhaps less advanced than this section and much less hopeful of forcing the pace than these hon. Gentlemen, wanted a period of 20 years. But what do we find now, Sir, in this statement of the hon. the Excise Minister? He refuses to place any time-limit for the attainment of this goal. It may be, Sir, that we have to march through all eternity before we reach that goal. Let those who live those eternal lives be profited by the policy which has been placed before us on the 5th March 1927. To us, Sir, not to the hon. Members of the Swarajist party alone but to all those who are interested in the welfare of the country that policy is not acceptable. We cannot accept a policy of such a retrograde character as this. Then, Sir, he having before him this determination to reach ultimately the goal of total prohibition but not within any known measure of time, we shall see what next he has to say. He has treated this House to some platitudes about the dangers of haste and rashness and about the merits of the qualities of care and caution. Even without a lecture to us, Sir, on these subjects, we can understand the dangers of haste and what excellent qualities care and caution are. He told us, Sir, that he would work up to that goal *as far as possible* and press forward as cautiously as possible. Mark the words 'as far as possible'; those are the words which I would ask the hon. Members of the Swarajist party to lay special emphasis on. It may be, Sir, that within a few yards of its start, the hon. Minister may stop his cautious march towards this goal, or he may stop anywhere on the way towards it. That is the policy, Sir, which I find placed before this House. There is one question which has been exercising the minds of all Members of this House and of all people who are really interested in this question of excise. About that there is not a word mentioned in the speech of the hon. the Excise Minister. I refer to the question of local option. It was left to his chief, Sir, to fill up the gap. If we analyse what the hon. the Chief Minister said, we will see, Sir, that he has not said anything which is very illuminating or very instructive. He says, Sir, that he is still experimenting, that we shall have to go forward carefully though slowly, and in regard to local option also we shall have to see that this experiment is going to be a success. With the hon. the Chief Minister and on his own showing, Sir, I say that several things, which to the rest of the world had long ago passed the stage of being mere experiments, are yet experiments to him. We shall hear more of these experiments, Sir, as we advance in the course of the discussions on the several cuts that have been given notice of. So, Sir, that is what we have got from the hon. the Chief Minister himself with regard to this question of local option. I wonder, again, Sir, why the hon. the Chief Minister made a reference to the great Non-Brahman Confederation at Madura and a resolution passed by it. I am using the word 'great' only from what he has himself said. I am not advertizing on the floor of this House the greatness of that Confederation, because it needs no advertisement at my hands. Well, Sir, his reference to the resolution passed at that great Confederation seems to my mind a matter of absolute irrelevance

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for the purpose for which he quoted it. He asks, Sir, in all seriousness, when in December 1926 at this great Non-Brahman Confederation a resolution was passed advocating total prohibition, why should Sir Patro in the years that preceded the year 1926 have failed to carry out this resolution. Well, it is in the nature of things impossible to carry out a resolution which was yet to be passed, and which was passed after his term of office ceased. Now, Sir, the hon. the Chief Minister is in office after the resolution was passed; have we in the statement made before us any evidence that they are going to carry out the resolution passed by the great Non-Brahman Confederation. We did not want the great Non-Brahman Confederation to pass the resolution; the country had already unequivocally expressed itself and this House had declared more than once, if not unanimously, by a majority that total prohibition was their goal. And yet, we are told, Sir, that we shall move towards that goal as far as possible. It may be that he may move, but whether that move would stop somewhere or would proceed to the goal it is not stated. But that is the pronouncement we have got from the hon. Minister for Excise. Well, Sir, if we raise this motion, if we want this cut to be made, it is to tell him that we cannot accept a policy so lame as this. We expected from them, as the Ministers of the people, an enunciation of a policy less cowardly than this, a bolder expression of what they are determined to do, if really they are determined to do anything at all. It was a statement of that kind that we were expecting to get from the hon. Ministers and we have got this kind of statement made on the floor of this House. It is perhaps not unnatural, it is perhaps just the thing to be expected from a body of Ministers that walk on borrowed legs."

* Mr. T. C. SRINIVASA AYYANGAR :—" Sir, it is somewhat refreshing to hear from the members of a party who have lost power, that they see at least now that total prohibition must be their goal. For six long years they had had the power, and for six long years they had the opportunity. But their present professions and their former practice have been at great variance. My hon. Friend the Member for Malabar said the members of his party were resolved not to accept office. But who offered them office? On what terms can they come into power now? Is it because that their professions are entirely different from their practice while in office or because the diarchy in which they played a part could not be worked up to the ideals of the people? It is only a case of the old story of the grapes being sour, and therefore, Sir, with your permission, I propose to take leave of him from that branch of his speech.

"The hon. Member from Tinnevely has come forward with a sweeter if not a more convincing speech. He referred to the great Confederation of the Justice party held at Madura. I was at Madura and saw their frantic eagerness to go in for Khaddar and clothe themselves with it. It was a sight worth seeing. Some five years before that when I was in the Council I heard one of the leading members of that party who appeared to be frightened at the mere mention of the words 'Khaddar and charka' which he thought was chakra. Now, Sir, as they have ample leisure, and probably the glamour or the sweetness of office having left them they are now able to understand the logic of things and the importance of the moral advancement of the people and the advancement of national happiness. It is much better that the work is carried on on the lines in which practical steps could be taken rather than merely on those which open a controversy. Instead it would be useful if the

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members of the Justice party would frankly say what they failed to do in the days of their power and had the same could be set right. Now, Sir, this party, the Independent Nationalist party, is as keen in this matter. . . . "

Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. PATRO :—" How many ? "

Mr. S. SATYAMURTI :—" More than you."

* Mr. T. C. SRINIVASA AYYANGAR :—" Certainly the hon. Member for Ganjam will see by this time next year the efforts made by this party in this matter achieve at least some of the results anticipated and he will also see in the meantime that gradual steps of an effective character are taken in the matter. My learned Friend from Tinnevely said that he was not dealing with the party that was not now in power but with the party that was now in power. The party now in power is not in a position to start with a clean slate. They have their budgets, etc., made by the other party that was previously in power. All the administrative details are as they left, and the new Ministers are to put their House in order. They have to clean the Aegean stables. The hon. the Minister for Excise is earnestly studying the question with much anxiety. He has to study the question as to the state the matter is in, and see how to improve it. Is it wrong to do so? He cannot merely say that he would work wonders. He hopes to evolve a scheme and steadily work it. Whether it is 10 years or 20 years or slightly more or slightly less, prohibition is our goal and effective steps will be taken and the details will be announced by the hon. the Minister."

* Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR :—" Certainly it is very difficult to deal with this matter, but the hon. the Minister in charge told us that they were for the present following the policy of the past Ministry. I agree with some of the hon. Members who seem to be of opinion that a round Minister has been put in a square hole. Certainly, Sir, the hon. the Minister Mr. Ranganatha Mudaliyar has declared both inside this House and outside it, what the policy of any Ministry should be. And it is curious that in this Ministry he should have nothing to do with Excise, and it is given to another Minister who says he has never studied the question and who probably as a non-tee-totaler would not believe in tee-totalism. But anyhow, time will come for these Ministers to change their ideals with a view to give satisfaction to this House and to the country at large. We want to make it clear that all that was done in the past was a series of mistakes. My hon. Friend Mr. Krishnan Nayar for whom I have great respect said that after all much had been done by the past Ministry, I knew only one instance and I shall stop with that. The philosophy of India is known for its definition of God by a process of 'Nethi' 'Nethi' 'not this, not this' And the order of the Government on this question similarly says 'Not this, not this.' Take local option. The Government cannot do this. Reduce the number of shops, the Government cannot do that. Rationing, the Government cannot take it up. They cannot do anything except accept that one blessed thing, the Excise Advisory Committee. To show the absurdity of the order regarding advisory committees and the licensing boards, I will deal with one instance only. It is given at the end of the report. It says that during the board's term of office of three years, the number of shops existing should not be reduced by more than one-fifth. Supposing the board finds, when it comes into being that there are four shops, this rule absolutely prohibits it from closing any shop, even one, because, in that

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case, it will be more than one-fifth. And this licensing board during a period of three years cannot take away even one shop. I need not deal with this absurd position further. The hon. Minister in charge says that he has been considering this matter. He has been in office for 4 months, 120 days, and he must have come to a conclusion by now as this is a matter sufficiently well known and he should have realized the feeling in the country in this matter. He has sufficient experience of the world and therefore though he is new to the House he cannot be new to this question. He must now clearly tell the House, the position of the Government of which he is a part, in this matter. There is no use of saying that there is no money or that revenue would go. My opinion is that though we may give the Government 25 crores more, they will not be satisfied and will increase their expenditure. In 1890-91 the expenditure of the Government was 371 lakhs. In 30 years it has jumped to 1,130 lakhs. That was in the first year of the Reforms. This year it has grown up to 16½ crores. Therefore are they going to say that 25 or 30 lakhs will be going to affect them in any way? There will be perhaps a number of answers given. The hon. the Finance Secretary, in his memorandum, has given us the figures that out of a total of 16 crores, we are spending 10 crores on the pay and allowances of higher officers and their establishments. Thus, on the personnel of the establishment alone, 10 crores are spent out of a total of 16 crores.

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“And I ask is this sum of 25 lakhs or 50 lakhs going to make any difference one way or the other? Therefore, it is absolutely necessary that something should be definitely said as to how we are going to achieve this goal. We want this goal to be achieved. Let the Government and the Ministry say that at least within 20 years they would reach the destined goal. That seems to be a period now agreed upon by the Justice party. But in the Government Order they say no time can be fixed. Sir, we shall take it that they have now fixed it. I will be glad even against the period of 10 years that the Congress party wants if the Government agree to reach the goal in 20 years and show how that would be done. The hon. Minister gave a hint that he was going to do something. What that something is going to be, we do not know. That definite something ought to be in the definite direction of giving the number of stages to be passed month by month or year by year. There should be a greater restriction imposed in the case of the foreign liquor and until and unless some such thing is done, there is no use at all in the reduction of shops, in the reduction of hours of sale and things like that. If one shop is taken, there is another shop with more sales, with more trees tapped, with more gallons consumed. If the hon. Minister says that the total prohibition is to be realised in any particular period, let him lay down the policy of the Ministry and of the whole Government to-day, that ultimately within that certain period it will be done. Of course, he was not clear on the point but I thought he would say that he would remove arrack and toddy within a certain period. Toddy is more harmful than arrack so far as the rural parts are concerned, as it is consumed by the labouring population on a large scale. Therefore, the question of temperance does not go even one step by mere words and if any useful experiment is to be made, the Government should see that no drink of any kind is available at a particular place. Who is to fix this place? One taluk was the old Minister's policy. I am afraid the new Minister may copy it because it is an old one. If it is prohibited in a taluk, the people may go

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to the neighbourhood. If it is to be anything useful it ought to be done in one district. Let there be total prohibition tried in the whole district. Total prohibition will cost us only 25 lakhs and therefore it does not matter. I know the Coimbatore district very well and I have studied the statistics very well. I studied the figures in the central jail a few days ago with the statistics of the murder cases in the district. It was 128 in one year, 126 last year and a corresponding figure for this year also. I, as a member of the advisory board, had to deal with the conditional release of a number of long term prisoners in the jail. Practically, 50 per cent of the offences were found to be offences committed at the spur of the moment due to provocation at the time of drunkenness. If the experiment were given a trial in my district, one Sessions Court at least will be closed and a number of police men can also be dispensed with. The large expenditure incurred in the central jail could be saved. Let us therefore begin in all earnest to try the experiment. There is no use of saying 'You are wrong and I am right.' We therefore wish that in the interests of economy and in the interest of the social well-being the Government should at once order total prohibition in one whole district. I think if that is done it will be a step taken in the right direction.

"We do not care what ministry is in power. We want to do all that is possible to kill diarchy. We do not care what party comes to power and what party goes. We are here to fight diarchy whoever may work it. If the present Ministers simply say 'it is only a few days since we assumed office,' we do not want to be deceived and cajoled. We are here on a question of principle, we want total prohibition. If in this House there is any party to work it in a shorter period they will have our support. We are not going to shut them out by our votes."

* Diwan Bahadur P. C. ETHIRAJULU NAYUDU:—"I have also given notice of a token motion to give expression to my grave dissatisfaction at the policy pursued by the hon. Minister with reference to Excise problem which is causing such hallo ballo in the country. You are aware, Sir, of the tremendous agitation against what was termed the lethargic policy of the late Ministry and against the attitude of the then Ministerialist party. For over two months before the elections the country was deluged with pamphlets, pointing out the iniquity of a party which did not take more rigorous steps to put down the drink evil. The protagonists of prohibition made their appeals in poetic prose and enchantic lyrics asking the country to reject such a party. And a new era dawned with the result of elections. The real party of the people was stated to have come into power. Away with squalor and misery, with drunkenness and vice, with crime and intemperance. But Sir, one regrets to find that there is no other temperance or rather prohibition than a prohibition of all criticism of the policy of the Ministry and no more sobriety than the sobriety of avoiding all controversy. It is mystifying to me, this change in the atmosphere, this transformation of roaring lions into sucking doves! What is the policy of the Ministry? How are they going to carry out their Excise reform? Are they going to carry out any reform at all? Do they believe in total prohibition? If so, in how many years do they wish to bring it about? My own views, Mr. President, were expressed in my dissenting minute on the Excise report when I was a Ministerialist. I trust that in this discussion cheap sneers and irrelevant comparisons will not be indulged in by either the Ministers

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or the Ministerialists behind the Treasury bench or in the so-called Opposition block. The work of the last Ministry may be good, bad or indifferent. You came into office because you would do some thing better. That is the sole justification, if there is any justification at all, for your accepting the office. And we ask you to deliver the goods as we are anxious to test the quality of the goods outturned. But looking at the Budget for 1927-28, I find no change at all. It is the old old policy and the old old principle that is pursued. It is somewhat curious that Ministers are in charge of subjects with which they were least connected as private members. I am aware that the distribution of subjects are in the hands of His Excellency. But I ask whether the Ministers did not give expression to their wishes but simply accepted the portfolios given to them? Why did not the hon. Gentlemen from Bellary take up Excise? I wish he had, for, we all know his large heart for the suffering humanity. Seated on the opposition benches he has thrilled us with his eloquence and dragged from our unwilling eyes the tribute of unshed tears at the pathetic picture of poor drunken humanity. Who does not remember his plaintive appeals, his searching questions, his moving speeches? What is his position to-day? Does he endorse the very curious exposition of the case which is hon. Colleague made the other day at Vellore?

“Has he read the innumerable ‘ifs’ of that memorable utterance:—‘If I am convinced that there is public opinion’, ‘If I feel satisfied that drink is an evil’—I do not say it is—but ‘if and when’ I am convinced of the gravity of the problem—I am sure I feel unequal to placing these magnificently statesmanlike utterances before the House. Do the hon. Colleagues of the Excise Minister share those views, or do they differ? Are we having diarchy or ‘tetrarchy’ in the province? And what is the opinion of the Excise Minister? Is his mind the same to-day as what it was at Vellore? Does it take colour as some vegetation does from the rock it lives on from the place he visits? Which is the inspired message, Vellore or Tanjore or Trichinopoly or Madura?”

“The hon. Minister may perhaps say that he is just now in office and does not know the bearings of the problem and must at least take six months when the last Minister took six years. But he forgets that he has colleagues, men who were quite definite as regards this question. The Development Minister speaking on the Excise report in February last said that total prohibition was the goal which ought to be worked out in 10 years by yearly advance. What, I ask, is the advance which you have sought to make in the next official year? I can see no change, no prospect of change. It is in these circumstances, Mr. President, that I make my motion that we are dissatisfied with the policy and programme of the Ministry on this question. I do hope that I shall get a reply more satisfactory, than the insane one that ‘you did not better in the past.’”

* Mrs. S. MUTHULAKSHMI REDDI :—“Mr. President, I rise to give expression to the opinion of the enlightened women of this country regarding this question of prohibition. It is admitted by everybody that this drink habit is harmful to the individual and to the nation from the medical, moral, economic and humane point of view. From the medical aspect, all intoxicants are considered to act as a poison upon every organ of the body and in fact, on every cell in the system. It is discovered also that it is a racial

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poison. So the enlightened European and Indian opinion is for the introduction of prohibition as early as possible. We are aware that Government is in sympathy with such a movement but they cannot solve the problem on account of the huge revenue that is accruing from the Excise department. But I submit a wise Government should take into consideration not only the income but also the other items of expenditure that they have to incur owing to the prevalence of the drink habit in the community the enormous amount of money they have to spend on items, such as hospitals, asylums, criminal administration, upon looking after the backward and imbecile children, etc. They should also take into consideration the economic loss from the diminished output of labour on account of the drink habit, and above all the misery, the disturbance of family peace and the deterioration of the race. Of the misery and the disturbance of family peace, women have a good share because of their economic dependence in this land as daughters, wives and as mothers. They have to pay a heavy penalty, as you all know, and their hardships and sufferings cannot be described adequately when they have to depend upon the income of their husbands who are addicted to intemperate habits. Whatever misfortune might afflict the country whether famine, flood or this drink evil the women and children suffer most, especially the Hindu women who do not inherit any property, and according to the Laws of Manu are not entitled to any share in the property, and who as daughters, as wives and mothers have to depend upon the earnings of the male members of the family. The Government can have an idea of the sad condition of women in this country from what I have described above. I therefore appeal on behalf of the suffering women of this Presidency that Government should introduce prohibition at the earliest opportunity."

* Mr. ABDUL HAMID KHAN:—"Mr. President, Sir, this important question of prohibition has, I feel sure, been dealt with from the standpoint of various parties that constitute this Council. The Justice Party which for six years sat on the Treasury Benches did not satisfy the people of this province, with regard to the excise question, and their policy has always been one of promise and they could not deal with it satisfactorily. At their great Confederation, the Justice Party is reported to have resolved that prohibition was their goal and said that if they had continued in office for twenty years they would have carried it out. But fortunately they have not been given that lease of life. I am sure I am echoing the feelings of this province when I say that, if they had they would not have given the opportunity to any other party that succeeded them to make prohibition a matter of practical politics."

"Sir, ever since the Reforms have been introduced in this country, ever since diarchy came into existence, we know that the expenditure in our province has increased by leaps and bounds. It is by about six crores over what it was, and we know also that the excise revenue is not more than five crores. If the Justice Party really believed in prohibition, they could have, instead of allowing this increase of expenditure of six crores, reduced the excise revenue and adjusted the expenditure. But they did nothing to do that and they ultimately failed to do that."

"Sir, it was said that the Congress Party supported the present Ministry in office. I must disillusion the minds of gentlemen of any such idea, because, we stand here and will continue to stand here to destroy diarchy at any cost. Mr. President, we shall not be used by any party in this Council

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for their particular purpose. I know we will certainly destroy diarchy and we mean to do that. But we will not be cajoled or coerced for the purpose of any party to defeat the present Ministry or to destroy diarchy to suit their sweet will and pleasure.

‘ Mr President, Sir, the hon Member, Mr. Krishnan Nayar, the spokesman of the Justice Party, stated things which appeared to me to be contradictory. In his speech he said that prohibition was an impractical problem and then in the next breath he said that their goal was prohibition. Well, I wish to know from the Justice Party whether they really believe in prohibition or whether it was only in order to hoodwink the people outside that they also agreed with the congressmen that prohibition was a very good thing.

“ Mr. President, prohibition is sometimes confused with temperance. People who advocate temperance make a great mistake because temperance does not help to bring about prohibition at any future date.

“ We know that in the last Council it was the misfortune of certain of my co-religionists who, without any regard for the dictates of their religion, sided with a party which stood for drink evil in this province. Most of them have been told by my co-religionists outside that they erred against their religion and that they erred against God, and hence they were out of this Council. I hope that my co-religionists who belong to this Council will take lesson from the fate that has been meted out to their predecessors in this Council, and to whichever party they might belong, they would certainly stand for, and be the protagonists of prohibition.”

* Rao Sahib S. ELLAPPA CHETTIYAR :—“ Sir, my idea in supporting this token out is to discuss the excise policy of the Government. Enough has been said by the previous speakers condemning the policy of the Ministry in regard to temperance. I wish to add one more instance to show that the policy adopted by the hon the Minister for Excise is not to be much appreciated. During the regime of his predecessor, a good trial towards prohibition was begun by closing all the arrack shops in one taluk of the Salem district and many more were closed in other places. In order to get an expansion of this trial to some more taluks, I put a question to the hon. the Excise Minister at the last session of the Council to know whether he was satisfied that this trial had been a success, and whether he had any idea of extending the experiment to more taluks. But to my great disappointment, in his reply, he said that he had found the trial not a success, because some reports were received from the locality that crimes had been on the increase and complaints had been received from people against the closure of shops, and further he added that he had no idea of extending the trial. This clearly shows that the policy adopted by the present Excise Minister is one of a retrograde kind. It might be that crimes, due to various other reasons had increased and that complaints from interested persons like drunkards and vendors had been received. But is he right in forming such an opinion from these trivial reasons? Even supposing there is some truth in them, is it not the duty of the Government to overcome these difficulties and carry on a policy which is good for the country and which has been strongly urged in this Council for the last six years? I do not say that total prohibition all on a sudden is an easy matter. But still, it has to be attained gradually within ten or fifteen years at any cost. So, the hon. the Excise

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Minister should lose no time and should not hesitate to pass orders closing arrack shops in taluk after taluk and reducing the number of toddy shops by an appreciable percentage every year until we reach the goal of total prohibition. Instead of doing this, if he forms a bad opinion about the good trial made in his predecessor's time, I think we have to take that his policy is not a progressive one but a retrograde one.

"With these few words, I support the motion."

The Council then adjourned for lunch.

After Lunch (2-30 p.m.).

*The hon. Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR :—
"Mr. President, Sir, in my budget speech, I made a statement explaining my intentions in the matter of excise. It is not my intention now to detain the House for more than a few minutes. Prohibition will be the goal of our excise policy. The idea of a dry Presidency will be accepted and worked up to. For the future, our policy will be the further reduction of shops and consumption by extension of the prohibition areas, by such increase of duty on spirits and of tree tax as is found suitable, by the reduction of the limits of private possession wherever necessary, and by such other methods as may be found suitable.

"Let me state at once that an extension of prohibition measures will entail a certain amount of loss of revenue. The financial side of the question is under examination by the Finance department and by the Finance Committee of this House, and I have not yet received their report. Extension of prohibition will also mean some increase in establishment, so that crime may be prevented and that illicit manufacture and consumption may not take the place of licit manufacture and consumption. A strong and incorruptible staff is indispensable for carrying out any policy of prohibition. In some districts we have to secure the co-operation of the Native States without which no measure of prohibition will be successful. As a Minister under the present constitution, Sir, I am bound to be guided by the opinion of this House, subject to the limitation is that diarchy places on the powers of action and initiative of a Minister. With these limitations, it is my intention to accept and carry out the policy of prohibition in such definite and progressive stages as enquiry and the circumstances of the case prove to be suitable.

"I did not intend, Sir, when I came here this morning to make anything more than a plain statement of policy. But I think I may just make a few remarks on what has fallen from Members on several sides of the House. Concerning the remark that reduction in shops and consumption has not been material, may I state, Sir, that during the period referred to by some of the hon. Members we have reduced the number of arrack shops by 3,00 and the number of toddy shops by 5,00 ? Concerning other remarks that have been made, one hon. Member referred to the fact that the previous Government prohibited officers of the Health department from carrying on propaganda work about the evils of drink. The matter will be considered, Sir, and I hope that it will be possible, provided that the health officers deal with the health side of the drink question, after due consideration, to allow them to carry on purely health propaganda. I may also be permitted to state, Sir, that it is not my intention to follow along the

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lines that have been indicated by some hon. Members that preceded me; in particular, with regard to the rather intemperate and illogical remarks that fell from the hon. Member for Malabar.

"In conclusion, Sir, I may make a personal statement on my own behalf and on behalf of my colleagues in the Ministry. Our policy as a party has been set forth already and speaking for myself I may say that it is my honest determination to carry out that policy. The future alone will show how far we may succeed. As to the criticisms levelled against our honesty of purpose I must repudiate them as vehemently as I can.

"Let me hope that the House will approve of the statement of policy I have made and pass the grant recommended by His Excellency."

* Rao Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU:—"Sir, I must congratulate the hon. Minister in securing the support of the Swarajya party for the policy that he enunciated in no unmistakable terms. Sir, one thing that the Justice Party so long as it was in power was attacked for was that it did not prescribe a time-limit within which total prohibition should be reached as the goal. This House, Sir, passed a resolution in February 1926, that within twenty years, that goal should be worked to. My hon. Friend the Leader of the Opposition—may I call him the chief of the Ministry—found fault with the previous Ministry. I wanted to know what exactly it was that he was going to lay down for his Ministry. He closed by expressing dissatisfaction at the policy of the present Ministry as well and asked the Minister to reverse that Government Order of September. He asked the Minister to declare a more definite policy and wound up by saying 'If you do so, we shall consider how long you shall be in your place on probation'. We heard on the 5th March the hon. the Minister solemnly saying to this House that he deprecated any idea of fixing a time-limit within which total prohibition shall be worked up to. To-day, I expected, Sir, after what was passing on here, that he would come forward with a clear statement that if not in twenty years at least in thirty years he would work up to that ideal. Sir, we are disappointed to see that the hon. the Minister would not commit himself to anything like that. The Leader of the Opposition—I would rather call him the leader of the Swarajya party, for I do not recognize his party as forming the real opposition in this House—said that the Government Order was evasive, irrelevant and did not deal with the crux of the question. Has the present Ministry in their declaration of policy which was carefully prepared and carefully read also set forth anything different from that? Have they laid down a time-limit? I am glad, Sir, that so far as the third Minister is concerned—if I vote for this motion it is not on any personal ground—the Excise Minister, he is the most outspoken of the three gentlemen. I would only ask, Sir, whether his colleagues here, who were for the last six years the loudest clamourers for ten years' or twenty years' limit, approved of his policy and did not want to enforce on him that a time-limit should be accepted. Well, Sir, I must congratulate the Swarajya Ministry or the pseudo-Swarajya Ministry on the policy they have declared. Here is the case of a Ministry without any following whatever—backed by whom? Not by their followers but by the Swarajists. I must take credit for my party, whether we are in office or in opposition, that in this Presidency we have succeeded in forcing the Swarajists to work diarchy. I am glad, Sir, that the Swarajists have taken a vow so solemnly pronounced on the floor of this House

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[Mr. B. Muniswami Nayudu]

by one of the deputy leaders that they would not send out this Ministry, and that therefore they would tolerate this diarchy. We are in a position to say that we have worked diarchy and the Swarajists have blessed the present Ministry. We shall see how the Swarajists with the Ministry in their hands will work out their policy through the Ministry for the next three years, the policy which they have proclaimed in their beach meetings. I do not want to digress. My friend Mr. Hamid Khan referred to his co-religionists and said that their religion prohibited drink. To-day, we shall see whether he as a Muhammadan is going to vote for the continuance of the drink policy in some modified form or vote for total prohibition. So far as our party's position is concerned, we have no confidence in the Ministry: they have no following at all. If it is a Ministry, it is a Ministry at the sufferance of the Swarajists. And we think, Sir, that in politics as in private affairs, this institution of a 'benami Ministry' should not be allowed to continue."

* Mr. S. SATYAMURTI:—"Mr. President, Sir, the main fact to be mentioned is that we all vote for this motion of reduction in the excise grant. We propose to express our dissatisfaction with the excise policy of this Government, because we want them to quicken their pace. We want them to do something better than that gentleman (*referring to Sir A. P. Patro*) who has taken a seat below the gangway and who is determined to vote on a matter of which he was in charge for six years but gets others to speak for him. He sits there in lonely glory and bleats out 'Oh, Oh,' every time a statement is made. It seems to me, Mr. President, that so far as we of the Congress party in this House are concerned, we have a clear and clean conscience in this matter. We stood for prohibition. We stand for prohibition. We will always stand for prohibition. What did they do when they were in power for six years? They fought prohibition tooth and nail and to-day, like angry schoolboys deprived of their toys, because they believed they alone had the right to have them, they are weeping. That is the children's quarrel to which we were treated all these six years. Do they at least now say that prohibition is practicable and that it ought to come within ten years? Will they give a solemn undertaking that if they are in that place again—God forbid—they will force the Finance Member and the Reserved half to make provision within ten years for total prohibition? Let them say so. We will vote with them even though they had rubbed shoulders with the hon. Members on the Treasury Benches for six years. I ask them, especially the European and Executive Councillors as man to man, what they think of their erstwhile colleagues who while they were with them fought against prohibition and to-day talk of prohibition. They now want to play the dirty game of defeating the Ministry, only because its personnel does not suit them. On the question of prohibition they are not with us, they were not with us, and they never will be with us.

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"Sir, I like Swaraj. I like prohibition. But, I like one thing more than Swaraj and prohibition and that is honesty in public life. For an Excise Minister of six years' standing who did nothing for prohibition, to talk of prohibition now, seems to me a condemnation of that very diarchy which he worked. He had no policy or programme when he was in power, and wants merely to say now that because we want prohibition, we should play the game of sending him and his party back again to His Excellency

[Mr S. Satyamurti]

[18th March 1927]

to be called upon to form a new Ministry so that he may once again turn round and say that the Reserved half is against prohibition (Sir A. P. Patro: 'What have you done?'). We have declined office, that office for which you were willing to sacrifice almost anything, willing to crawl on your knees and do all sorts of things. I know that. (Sir A. P. Patro: 'You know it?') Yes. I know it.

"Then, Sir, so far as the statement of policy of the hon. the Minister for Excise is concerned, I recognise that it marks some advance on the barrenness of the policy of Sir Patro. Prohibition is not kept out, as it was, in this Government Order, the parting gift of Sir Patro of the Madras Government. The present Ministry accepts prohibition. They accept progressive and definite stages should be taken in that direction. But I want to tell my hon. Friend, the Excise Minister, that on this side of the House there is a very keen, very earnest and very sincere feeling that we must get total prohibition as early as possible. I recognise the practical difficulties in the way, viz., the difficulty of finding alternative sources of revenue, the difficulty of having adequate detective staff to prevent illicit manufacture and sale, and also time for the interests concerned, to adjust themselves. I said this when Sir Patro was the Minister for Excise. I am not saying it only to-day. Therefore I am willing to recognise these difficulties. But I think that an earnest beginning must be made towards prohibition, not by way of experiments, but as definite stages towards that goal. If this is done, Sir, so far as we, Congressmen, are concerned, we are willing to offer them assistance in seeing that prohibition is enforced, but we do think that the unit should be at least a district. You cannot try prohibition otherwise. It must be at least one district area, otherwise it will not work well. There are districts like Mr. Koti Reddi's, where prohibition can be enforced. He made an offer the other day in the general budget discussion that if the Ministry would introduce total prohibition in his district, he and his friends would co-operate. Therefore, we ask the Ministers to be true to their word and to go forward. But we are not satisfied with that. We agree that there ought to be a time-limit, because, only then will the marches be regular.

"Sir, one last word and I am done. My hon. Friend, Mr. Muniswami Nayudu, the last of the Romans who takes every chance to deliver us lectures on irrelevant topics, I am sorry he is left alone in this House, has lectured to us on our not killing diarchy. Yes. We are here to kill diarchy. Mr. President, if my hon. Friend the Leader of the Justice Party will get up from that place and say to-day: 'I have now discovered—because I am no longer in office—that diarchy is unworkable and that it should be scrapped', we will walk into the lobby with him and destroy this Ministry and fifty other Ministries under diarchy. But so long as he will not say that, so long as he will only play with us and merely say: 'These Ministers are unsuitable to me. Chuck them out. I will come back', I should say politely, 'No need of your help to kill diarchy. We will choose the time and method'. The one thing I have learnt from my chief, the late Mr C. R. Das is this, never to take advice from the other side."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT:—"I take it that the House is ready for the question."

The motion was put and declared carried. On account of cries of 'No, no' a poll was taken.

16th March 1927]

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" Before deciding one way or the other, I wish to know from the Leader of the House as well as from the Leader of the Opposition whether they prefer to have the vote taken as usual in the House itself or in the lobbies. We have got the lobbies ready since this morning."

* The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—" I may suggest, Sir, I do not know what the Leader of the Opposition may say, that you may take the votes by the usual method, and from to-morrow introduce the lobby system."

* Mr SAMI VENKATACHALAM CHETTI :—" I think so far as the budget motions are concerned, we shall follow the usual procedure and afterwards adopt the other method."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" As there is unanimity of opinion among leaders of parties in favour of the old practice, I will continue that practice for the present."

The poll was taken and the House divided thus :—

Ayes.

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| 1. Mr. V. I. Muniswami Pillai. | 32. Mr. V. Kameswara Rao Nayudu. |
| 2. " Sami Venkatachalam Chetti. | 33. " L. K. Tulasiram. |
| 3. " S. Satyamurti. | 34. " K. R. Karant. |
| 4. " C. V. Venkataramana Ayyangar. | 35. " K. V. Krishnaswami Nayakar. |
| 5. " T. Adinarayana Chettiar. | 36. " K. Madhavan Nayar. |
| 6. " P. Anjaneyulu. | 37. " C. Venkatarangam Nayudu. |
| 7. " K. Koti Reddi. | 38. " C. Gopala Menon. |
| 8. " S. Mutayya Mudaliyar. | 39. " M. A. Manikkavelu Nayakar. |
| 9. " P. C. Venkatapati Raju. | 40. Rao Bahadur C. S. Ratnasabapati Mudaliyar. |
| 10. " P. Siva Rao. | 41. Kumara Raja of Venkatagiri. |
| 11. " C. S. Govindaraja Mudaliyar. | 42. Mr. B. Ramachandrar Reddi. |
| 12. " G. Harisvottama Rao. | 43. Raja of Panagol. |
| 13. " O. N. Muthuranga Mudaliyar. | 44. Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. Patro. |
| 14. " Abdul Hamid Khan. | 45. Diwan Bahadur M. Krishnan Nayar. |
| 15. " K. V. R. Swami. | 46. Khan Bahadur S. K. Abdul Razaq Sahib Bahadur. |
| 16. Muhammad K. P. V. S. Meera Ravuttar Bahadur. | 47. Mr. P. L. Rajan. |
| 17. Mr. D. Narayana Raja. | 48. " T. K. Chidambaramatha Mudaliyar. |
| 18. Mr. B. S. Mallaya. | 49. Rao Sahib S. Ellappa Chettiar. |
| 19. K. Uppi Sahib Bahadur. | 50. Diwan Bahadur P. C. Ehirajulu Nayudu. |
| 20. Mr. J. A. Saldanha. | 51. Muhammad Khadir Mohidin Sahib Bahadur. |
| 21. " C. Obi Reddi. | 52. Diwan Bahadur S. Kumaraswami Reddiyar. |
| 22. " A. Parasurama Rao Pantulu. | 53. T. M. Moidu Sahib Bahadur. |
| 23. " U. Ramaswami Ayyar. | 54. Rao Bahadur B. Muniswami Nayudu. |
| 24. " C. Ramasomayajulu. | 55. Mr. K. Ramachandra Padayachi. |
| 25. Basheer Ahmad Sahib Bahadur. | 56. " K. Sarabha Reddi. |
| 26. Mr. P. Bhaktavatsulu Nayudu. | 57. Rao Bahadur K. Sitarama Reddi. |
| 27. Friman Biswanath Das Mahasayo. | 58. Zamindar of Mirzapuram. |
| 28. Mr. A. Kameswara Rao. | 59. Mr. J. Kuppaswami. |
| 29. " K. Srinivasa Ayyangar. | |
| 30. Natta Dubash Syed Ibrahim Sahib Bahadur. | |
| 31. Mr. K. S. Sivasubrahmanya Ayyar. | |

Noes.

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| 1. The hon. Sir C. P. Ramaswami Ayyar. | 10. Mr. P. L. Moore. |
| 2. " Mr. N. E. Marjoribanks. | 11. " H. Tireman. |
| 3. " Khan Bahadur Muhammad Usman Sahib Bahadur. | 12. " G. T. Boag. |
| 4. " Diwan Bahadur R. N. Arogyaswami Mudaliyar. | 13. " V. Pandrang Rao. |
| 5. " Mr. I. E. Moir. | 14. " S. H. Slater. |
| 6. " Mr. A. Ranganatha Mudaliyar. | 15. " C. B. C. terrell. |
| 7. " Dr. P. Subbarayan. | 16. Khan Bahadur Muhammad Bazi-ul-Jah Sahib Bahadur. |
| 8. Mr. T. R. Venkatarama Sastriyar. | 17. Zamindar of Seithur. |
| 9. " J. F. Hall. | 18. Mr. C. D. Appavu Chettiar. |
| | 19. " H. B. Ari Gowder. |

Noes—cont.

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| 20. Mr. A. B. Shetty. | 35. Mr. S. Subrahmanya Moopnar. |
| 21. " J. Bheemayya. | 36. " Chavadi K. Subrahmanya Pillai. |
| 22. Rai Sahib M. Hampayya. | 37. " S. V. Vanavudaya Goundar. |
| 23. Mr. V. Ch. John. | 38. " S. Venkiah. |
| 24. " Mahmud Schamnad. | 39. " K. R. Venkatarama Ayyar. |
| 25. " Muppil Nayar. | 40. " K. Krishnan. |
| 26. " R. N. Gan Gowda. | 41. " G. R. Premayya. |
| 27. Subadar Major S. A. Nanjappa Bahadur. | 42. " Tajudin Sahib Bahadur. |
| 28. Mr. T. M. Narayanaswami Pillai. | 43. Swami Sahajanandan. |
| 29. " C. R. Parthasarathi Ayyangar. | 44. Rao Sahib B. Srinivasan. |
| 30. " Ramanatha Goenka. | 45. Mr. H. F. P. Hearson. |
| 31. " N. Siva Raj. | 46. " C. R. T. Congreve. |
| 32. " M. V. Gangadhara Siva. | 47. Sir Alexander MacDougall. |
| 33. " W. P. A. Soundarapantya Nadar. | 48. Mr. J. Mackenzie Smith. |
| 34. " T. U. Srinivasa Ayyangar. | 49. " C. E. Wood. |
| | 50. " L. C. Guruswami. |

59 hon. Members voted for the motion and 50 *against*.

The motion was carried.

* The hon. the PRESIDENT:—"The time allotted for the Demand having expired, I shall put the Demand to the vote."

Demand II—Excise for a sum not exceeding Rs. 38.41 lakhs *minus* Rs. 100 was then put and carried and the grant made.

DEMAND III—STAMPS.

8 p.m. * The hon. Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—"Sir, on the recommendation of His Excellency the Governor I move—

'that Government be granted a sum not exceeding Rs. 4.85 lakhs for Stamps.'

* Mr. SAMI VENKATACHALAM CHETTI:—"Sir, I move—

'that the allotment of Rs. 5,000 for pay of establishments be reduced by Rs. 10.'

"My object is to ask the Government to reduce the stamp duties which were raised in 1922. The duties were raised in that year in order to balance a deficit budget. Now that a favourable opportunity has come, any surplus that we have must first be utilized to reduce this burdensome taxation. I move this motion, therefore, in order to ask the Government to reduce the stamp duties."

* The hon. Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—"Sir, as has been observed by my hon. Friend the Mover of this motion, the stamp duties were raised in 1922 in order to meet the then deficit budget. It is not the intention of Government to continue perpetually the increased duties on stamps. We are only waiting for an opportunity to reduce them. We have not yet got from the Government of India orders to the effect that the Provincial contribution has been remitted. When that amount is released for our use, Government will consider the question of reducing the stamp duties. Last year also, on a similar motion in this Council Government said that they would consider this question. The Government of India have forwarded the Report of the Indian Taxation Enquiry Committee to us for our opinion. We have asked the Board of Revenue to report upon it and as soon as we receive their remarks, we will bestow our best attention to this question."

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* Mr. T. ADINARAYANA CHETTIYAR :—“ Sir, I do not propose to make a long speech in supporting this motion. This budget has been described as a surplus budget by some and as a deficit budget by others. But from the point of view of the poor ryots, every budget seems to be a deficit budget. For, next to land revenue, stamp duties affect the poor ryots most. Of course, there is the excise revenue; but we have now done with it. As the Leader of the Opposition has pointed out, this enhanced duty was introduced as a war measure. This extra impost on their daily transactions is very unpopular among the people and they submitted to it only because there was no other way at that critical situation. But now that a favourable opportunity has come, I thought that the hon. the Home Member would come forward with a promise to reduce the duty to its old level. But his pronouncement has sadly disappointed us. Though he has been on the Treasury Bench for only a short while, he seems to have caught the spirit of the Treasury Bench very well and he is now out-heroding Herod. He says, when a favourable opportunity occurs, when everything is alright, when this happens and when that happens, the question will be considered. Even then, only ‘considered’. We would have been glad if he had said that he would recommend the reduction of this duty as soon as the Provincial contributions are remitted by Central Government. As a bureaucrat to the manner born, the Home Member now says that the question will be considered. If all the things which were considered, which are considered, and which will be considered by the Government, were to take material shape and were to be heaped before us to-day, they will outweigh the whole world. We are satisfied with promises. If we ask for the appointment of an Indian to a post or raise any important issue, the reply promptly comes that if a suitable Indian is available, and if everything is favourable, the question will be considered.

“ There is another aspect of the question. The stamp duty affects the ryot in two ways. It affects him in his ordinary commercial transactions and in his litigation. No one goes in for litigation as if to a tamasha; and to make capital out of the sheer necessity of the ryot and to tax him 50 per cent though, as a war measure, continuously for six long years is bad enough. But to persist in taxing him heavily on the plea that they are waiting for a favourable opportunity even when the favourable opportunity has occurred, is flouting the wishes of the people. In any civilized Government, it would be recognized that commercial transactions ought to be made easy enough and we all know how the duty of one anna on bank cheques affected the use of that very useful commercial instrument. Both from the ryots’ and the litigants’ point of view, it is highly necessary that stamp duties should be reduced as early as possible. For these reasons, I support the motion.”

* Diwan Bahadur M. KRISHNAN NAYAR :—“ Sir, I wish to support this motion. The duty was raised in the year 1922 when the present Home Member was also a Member of this Council though not on that side of the House. (A voice: Ministerialist.) I am glad that he was then a Ministerialist. That was a time of deficit budgets in all the provinces and our province was threatened with a deficit of one crore and six lakhs of rupees. The Finance Committee and this Council explored all the avenues of fresh taxation to cover the deficit. Tobacco was thought of being taxed at first, but in the end, increase in the stamp duty was thought to be the least objectionable. A Bill increasing the stamp duty was accordingly

[Mr. M. Krishnan Nayar]

[16th March 1927]

introduced and it was anticipated that it would bring an increased income of Rs. 70 lakhs. But till now, the income from the increased duty has amounted only to Rs. 59 lakhs. The hon. the Home Member may remember that, at that time, a distinct promise was made both by Sir Muhammad Habib-ul-lah and Sir K. Srinivasa Ayyangar on behalf of the Government that, as soon as the finances of the province improved, the enhanced duty would be given up. My hon. Friend himself admitted that that promise was repeated on another occasion as well. My hon. Friend, the Home Member, says, 'This is not the proper time for giving up the stamp duties altogether. Let us wait for a more favourable opportunity'. I submit that a more favourable opportunity will never come. This is the most favourable opportunity. When the duty was imposed, we were paying to the Central Government a sum of Rs. 348 lakhs. But to-day so far as that is concerned, we have not to pay a single pie. There is, of course, the possibility of our being called upon to pay 49 lakhs next year but that is only a remote contingency which is not likely to occur. In any case, about 300 lakhs have been permanently remitted in our favour. This year we get 165 lakhs. I ask my friend whether he expects a more favourable opportunity to come next year. I submit that the promise made by the Government on that occasion and repeated on another occasion must be fulfilled. It is a duty which they are bound to do. For these reasons, I support this motion.

* Mr. T. C. SRINIVASA AYYANGAR :—“ Sir, no lengthy speech is necessary to commend this motion for the acceptance of the House. My hon. Friend Mr. Krishnan Nayar, was a party to two money Bills by which court fees and stamps were increased and also to an executive order by which the registration fees were also increased. I do not like to go into the history of the measure or the circumstances under which the duties were increased as Mr. Krishnan Nayar has stated them in detail. But I should like to give an idea to the House of the subterfuges adopted by some people resorting to registration offices by undervaluing and other means, to avoid the heavy fees. It is improper to levy high stamp duties and high registration fees for, the people are forced to adopt such objectionable methods to evade them. The enhanced duties act as a deterrent to honest transactions. I am sure the House will view this motion with favour and the hon. the Home Member will appoint a committee, or will himself look into the matter and see that the duties are reduced soon.”

3-15
p.m.

* Mr. K. KOTI REDDI :—“ Mr. President, Sir, I am one of those who think that a case may probably be made for reducing stamp fees both for judicial and non-judicial purposes. But at the same time, the demands on the 'windfall' are likely to increase as we proceed, and the time will probably come when this amount will have to be apportioned between various schemes. This is my feeling, as I have already expressed in the House, that so far as the windfall is concerned, if this Council including the Swarajists and other parties are really serious in the matter of total prohibition, we should earmark that amount to make up for the reduction of revenue on account of total prohibition. Nevertheless, I wish to express the fact that people really feel that they are paying very large sums as judicial and non-judicial stamp fees, and it is my desire that the Government should seriously investigate whether they are really making any profit out of the judicial and non-judicial stamps. If, after making an investigation, the Government find that they

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[Mr. K. Koti Reddi]

are not making a profit, I do not see why the general tax-payer should not pay for them. If the Government are making a profit, a very favourable opportunity is come to reduce the fees. I hope the Finance Department and the Government will work out the figures for both the judicial and non-judicial stamps and find out whether they are making a profit in which case, the fee ought to be reduced."

* Rao Bahadur K. SITARAMA REDDIYAR :—" Sir, I am one of those who have tabled a similar motion and I heartily support this. At the time when the Stamp Fees Amendment Bill was introduced into the Council by the then Member, the hon. Khan Bahadur Muhammad Habib-ul-lah Sahib—I was then a Member—he gave us distinctly to understand that the fees that would be enhanced by that amending Bill would be reduced at the earliest opportunity. We all submit now that this is the best opportunity which is given to us for the reduction of the stamp duty. My hon. Friend from Malabar has dealt with all the aspects of the case and I do not wish to add anything further. I heartily support the motion."

* Mr. K. V. R. SWAMI :—" Mr. President, Sir, the answer given by the hon. Member is the usual stereotyped answer which the Treasury Bench take pride in giving. They have not recognized yet that this Council has lost all taste for such answers. It is more bureaucratic than it was some-time back. When a question is placed before the House, it is for the Government to consider and give their opinion. If in a small matter like this, they cannot make up their mind, if they want to wait for this report and that report and for a favourable opportunity, I do not think they are acting rightly. They must always note what the feeling of the country will be with regard to their answers. They are quite safe here, not having to face the electorate. They can be very comfortably seated here. But are they really advancing the cause of the Government day after day? Or are they making the position of the Government in the country ridiculous? That is the question they have to consider. Then Government have taken from the people an extra amount when they found that it was impossible to carry on the Government with their existing resources. At that time they said impliedly, if not explicitly, that as soon as it was possible, the extra taxation would be removed. Now when they have plenty of money in their hands, they say they will consider the question when a more favourable opportunity presents itself, God knows when. This ought not to be the attitude of even the Reserved half. If you can make the people rely upon your word, it will be possible for any Government to impose extra taxation in times of emergency. It may not be possible, I admit, for any Government to carry on the administration with the old taxes. Fresh taxes have to be imposed in times of necessity. But, if the Government are ready to impose fresh taxation, they must be more ready to cancel them as soon as possible. The other day the hon. the Finance Member was saying that even if the Central Government were to release a certain sum of money, it would be better to keep the money in store against an evil day. He does not want to utilize that money for lessening any taxes. After all, we may have to utilize Rs. 50 lakhs, or so. The amount is not too much for the Government to be kept in store against any future necessity. That ought not to be the attitude of any Government. As my hon. Friend suggests, perhaps the hon. the Finance Member wants to accumulate the amount and utilize it when money would be required for enhancing the salaries of the superior

[Mr. K. V. R. Swami]

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services. That is exactly what the country thinks about the attitude of this Government. After all, what is the amount that is going to be remitted by way of lessening the existing duties? It is only a few lakhs. It is not much. Why are the Government so very reluctant? During the general discussion on the budget, Member after Member rose in this House and said that this increased tax must go. Should not the Government take that attitude of this House into consideration? Should they give the same stereotyped answer to the Council that the matter would be considered when a favourable opportunity occurred? If they wish to increase the tax when their resources are found inadequate, people will be willing for extra taxation, provided they had the confidence that the burden would be lightened at the next earliest opportunity. Without that confidence even if you assure the country that it is on account of some adverse circumstances that the Government are temporarily imposing additional taxes, it would not be believed by the people, and they will think that this Government would never abolish any tax once allowed to be imposed.

“There is another point. After all, you are not getting as much money as you expected. The amount anticipated on account of extra taxes on judicial and non-judicial stamps was Rs. 70 lakhs. Now we are realizing only Rs. 35 lakhs. Men in every country will always try to avoid extra taxes by a back door. If a man purchases a thing for Rs. 2,000, he would not mention that amount because he may have to pay more tax. He will say he purchased it for Rs. 1,500 and will pay less tax. So, we will not get more money as taxes. The Government will have to take all these facts into consideration, and should not feel perplexed when the House asks for a reduction of taxes. When we ask for the pay of the village munsifs to be increased, they say they cannot afford to do so. When we ask that extra taxation be reduced, they ask ‘how that can be done when several claims are made on their resources’. At all times, they say that they have to attend to so many things and that their resources should not be affected in any way.”

* Mr. P. ANJANEYULU :—“Sir, this question has been discussed on the floor of this House several times. Even last year, a token cut for this purpose was carried by a large majority. This year when we have a windfall and when we have large sums of money forthcoming, we are putting the question to the Government—we are not asking for too much—‘were you serious when you promised and are you serious to fulfil the promise when you can?’ At one time you wanted more money. The measure that was introduced was only a temporary one. We agreed to it though we knew that we were taxing the poor people. Now it is time for you to redeem your promise and it would be worth while to do so. When we put the question, the Government say ‘we shall consider the question’ which, in this country, has come to mean ‘it shall never be considered’. It was only as a temporary measure that the duties were raised. An honest question has been put; it must be honestly answered. I hope and trust that the hon. the Home Member was serious when he said that the question would be considered, and that he would not postpone its real consideration when the money is in the hands of Government. I do not wish to add anything more.”

* Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—“Sir, I do not wish to detain the House by repeating the arguments that are used year after year. I only ask the hon. the Home Member and the hon. the Law Member what they have done with the recommendation of the Taxation Committee on this very

16th March 1927]

[Mr. J. A. Saldanha]

subject. One of the leading officials of this Council was employed to draw up a scheme of court fees and stamp duties and he has been congratulated in having devised a very equitable scheme for laying the incidence of taxation on various classes of people according to poverty and according to the nature of transactions. I am sure that this Government must have been consulted by the Government of India who are primarily concerned in carrying out the scheme. What I want to know is what steps this Government have taken in expediting the action to be taken on the recommendations of the Taxation Committee. Before they submitted their proposals, I also think that this House should have been taken into their confidence with regard to the recommendations of the Taxation Committee.

“One point more, Sir. We cannot get at present copies of the Taxation Committee's Report. They are out of stock. I would suggest that the Government should place copies of the report for sale. We are ready to pay the price; it is a small sum. The recommendations of the Taxation Committee seem to be very fair for all classes of people.

“Another point to be borne in mind is that the incidence of the present taxation falls mostly on the poor classes. Many poor people have to put off their transactions out of force of circumstances because they are too poor to have them recorded in documents. In this way there is likely to be loss of revenue.

“If the taxes are reduced, as has been pointed out by my Friend Mr. K. V. R. Swami, say by at least 50 per cent, I expect that many more transactions will be entered into, so that the income from taxes will not be reduced considerably by the decrease in the rate of taxes. So, this point has to be borne in mind. Considering the poverty of the large masses of people who have to enter into minor transactions, I hope Government will reduce the taxes, at least in the case of transactions of lower values, so that the poor man may not feel the burden of the taxes to the extent they now do.”

3-30
P.M.

* Sriman BISWANATH DAS Mahasaya :—“Mr President, Sir, I very heartily support the motion, and in supporting it I have to place certain facts before the House for its consideration. Before the inauguration of the Reforms in 1919, the Government of India, in their first Despatch, laid down in paragraph 57 that during the transitional stage the people must be safeguarded from unjustifiable taxation. Sir, after the inauguration of the Reforms, taxation to the extent of a crore, or even more, has been either sanctioned by the Government or allowed by the legislature to be levied on the people of this Presidency. The principle of taxation is that it should be graduated to the needs of the administration. There were bad times and we were then told that the Government were in distress, and this House without any hesitation had to give its seal of sanction to a taxation measure by enhancing court-fees and stamp duties which fetched about Rs. 60 or Rs. 70 lakhs more than previously. Excluding Bombay and Bengal, I believe Madras is the highest taxed so far as judicial and non-judicial stamps are concerned. It is therefore not surprising that the people should have practically a confirmed impression that once a tax is imposed on the people, it is never removed. I think that so long as the Executive adheres to the rigid principle of continuing the taxation once imposed, though the conditions have improved, the legislature will learn to oppose all taxation proposals of the Government. I do not think that the Government of Madras can ever say that this Council opposed taxation when there was a real need for it. During the passage of the Bill enhancing the taxes, my hon.

[Sriman Biswanath Das Mahasaya] [16th March 1927]

Friend, the Minister for Development, who now sits on the Treasury Bench was one of the strongest fighters, but now he is there. I believe he will realize all the difficulties this enhanced taxation has brought on the people. We have been, on our part, moving the Government to bring about a reduction in the stamp and court-fees year after year. Speaking on the 18th March 1925, the hon. Mr. Graham said that the Government would accede to the demands of the legislature provided they got a reduction of the Provincial contribution. Sir C. P. Ramaswami Ayyar who now adorns the first seat in the Treasury Bench speaking on the same demand and on the same occasion said :

‘ Apart from this consideration, I think that the restoration of the fees to the old level in certain cases, as I have said, is necessary from the utilitarian and financial points of view and I considered that the restoration of the old court-fees might even lead to an increase or augmentation in the revenues.’

“ Sir, I do not want anything more to be done than redeeming the pledges that have been given to us in 1925. If the Executive fail to do it, I assure them that any proposal for taxation at any future time will be stoutly opposed by the Members of this House. Sir, we have been moving, time after time and budget after budget, many motions and then withdrawing them with a promise from the Executive ; but promises, as the poet has said, are like cakes made to be broken, and never to be fulfilled. I therefore appeal to the various sections of the House to vote down the grant and make this out, just to express our sense of disapprobation of the acts of the Executive Government.”

* **MR. R. SRINIVASA AYYANGAR :—**“ Mr. President. Sir, I support the motion before the House. I do not think it is necessary for me to give my reasons at any length in view of the obvious fact that on two previous occasions, in 1925 and 1926, this question came up before the House and was discussed threadbare. The increased stamp duty on instruments presses very heavily upon the ryots and upon those who are anxious to have their transactions reduced to writing. Their number is by no means small. To meet the financial stringency, the Members of this House in 1922 gave their assent to this measure with a view to increase the stamp duty and court-fees as a temporary expedient, in the hope that the moment things came to a normal condition, the Government would seriously set about the business and voluntarily come forward with the proposal for reducing the stamp duty to the old level ; but unfortunately that was not to be. On turning to the Taxation Enquiry Committee's Report, I find, Sir, that they have also recommended the reduction of stamp duty on certain classes of documents. That recommendation was made by the Committee more than fifteen or sixteen months ago ; but I am sorry to note that up till now no attempt has been made by this Government to reduce the stamp duty. This Government do not appear to have budged an inch or moved a musole in the direction of ameliorating the condition of the people. The answer made to-day by the hon. the Home Member is somewhat disappointing. He never stated that the moment the remission was guaranteed he would himself voluntarily come up here with a Bill for cutting down the stamp duty proportionately. All that he says is—he hedges himself with a great deal of limitations, considerable equivocation and mental reservations—that the matter will receive his consideration. What the nature of that consideration will be we do not know, and what turn it will take, whether it will be agreeable to us or disappointing to us, I am not in a position to know. This makes me think that the Government are not in a mood to come to the rescue of the

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people unless and until there is some pressure of opinion not only on the floor of this House but also outside this House. It is only to disabuse the Government of that impression and to make the Government feel and believe that we are very serious in our demand for reduction of these taxes, that I thought it necessary for me to give my support to the motion."

* Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR :—" Sir, I do not want to speak at length but will be satisfied with one or two words. One point of constitutional reform we want is this. Whenever there is any proposal for reform, we want to introduce a very welcome change that, if a resolution is passed repeatedly more than twice or thrice in this Council, that resolution shall be given effect to. If this Government has any idea of giving effect at any time to any reform, here is an opportunity for them to do so. This is, I believe, the third time we are passing a resolution in favour of this reduction.

" The second thing that I want to say is this. Even at the time these amending Acts were passed, we made an attempt, and if I may say so, the hon. the Home Member also was a party to it, to insert a word that the Act would be only temporary and should not have a life of more than two or three years. No doubt that motion was thrown out, but it was by a very small majority.

" The only other point I wish to say is that this is a poor man's taxation and therefore, when we have lots of money, the poor man should be relieved of his burden. Also, one difficulty which the poor man feels in the villages is that the stamp vendors vend stamps only up to Rs. 50. The price of lands has gone up and therefore the value of transactions regarding lands has also gone up, with the result that although they want to buy stamps for small transactions they have to pay larger stamp fees made much larger by the enhancement. The limit of stamps to be sold in the villages or the value thereof remains at Rs. 50 for several years; and I think it is very hard to ask the poor people to go to the taluk headquarters, wait there for a long time and get the stamps if they want stamps for more than Rs. 50. I think it is high time that this question should be taken up. I therefore strongly appeal both to the hon. the Home Member and to the Finance Member to give their best consideration to this question."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" Mr. Basheer Ahmed wants to speak, on this motion, regarding the insufficiency of stamp vendors in the High Court. I am not able to understand whether he can do so. I should like to know whether he can."

* The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—" There are certain licensed stamp vendors. Apparently the idea is to increase their number and give them greater facilities. But that, I think, will come under 'Administration of Justice'."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" Is it a matter with which any of the Members of the Cabinet are officially connected ? "

* The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—" The High Court is connected with the subject."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" I do not think the hon. Member can speak on that aspect of the question on this motion."

* The hon. Mr. T. E. MOIR :—" Mr. President, in speaking on this motion, I propose to confine myself entirely to the financial issue which has

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been raised in connexion with it. Perhaps, I may first deal with the point raised by my hon. Friend from Malabar. I think I am right in saying that he stated that the Government had promised to reduce the duties when an opportunity came. Now, when I look into the budget proceedings of last year, I can find no motion regarding”

* Diwan Bahadur M. KRISHNAN NAYAR :—“ As a matter of personal explanation, Sir. I referred to the distinct promise made at the time of the introduction of these duties. ”

* The hon. Mr. T. E. MOIR :—“ I am working back, I was saying that I had referred to last year's proceedings but that I could find no guarantee or promise on the part of the Government at the time of the budget presented last year. I turn now to the year before last. I am able to quote what my predecessor said on the matter. The question was put by the hon. Diwan Bahadur as to whether the Finance Member would give an undertaking or promise to the effect that if the contributions were reduced, he would reduce the stamp and court fees in which case he said that he was prepared to vote against the motion then under discussion. My predecessor, the hon. Mr. Graham stated :

‘ I think it is obvious that I can make no such promise at this moment. The position might be made clearer if the hon. Member would promise on behalf of the House that Members will not press the other motions tabled here which involve increased expenditure. (Voices : ‘ No such promise. ’) Very well. I leave it to the House to choose. ’

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“ I think the hon. Member from Coimbatore has already pointed out that when the question of the permanent or temporary character of the Bill was raised, the House decided that the word ‘ temporary ’ should not be inserted and that the Bill was so passed. On other occasions, when a reference was made to the possibility of the duty being reduced, the position that was then taken up by Government was exactly that put forward by my hon. Colleague to-day, that is to say, the taxation once imposed must not necessarily always be continued, but, that is a question which is open to consideration both by this House and by the Government. That is however a very different matter from a guarantee by the Government, that when any particular opportunity may come, they will definitely make a reduction in a specific item of existing taxation. Hon. Members are again pressing us that we should give a guarantee now that we will reduce these duties. Might I point out to the House that what they are discussing at present is not the budget actually before the House, but the utilization of certain contingent revenues, which we hope that we shall be assured of getting. We shall not know however until the Finance Bill of the Government of India is passed and the Currency Bill, whether our expectations will be realized. I quite admit, however, that it is legitimate to anticipate and for the House to throw out suggestions as to the way in which, assuming we get the additional revenue, we should spend it, but may I point out that we are now discussing only the third grant which has come before the House. I will omit all reference to minor matters but we have already had a plea equally strongly urged that the pay of the village officers should be increased; we have already had a plea equally urged that the pay of the non-gazetted establishments should be increased; we have already had a plea that we should set aside half a crore of revenue in the first year in respect of loss of excise revenue; and my hon. Friend, Mr. Koti Reddi, has very properly pointed out that the cumulative effect of these demands must be that either one demand must go or another. Even the one crore and 12 lakhs—our anticipated additional revenue, will

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not nearly suffice to meet the demands that have been already placed before the House; and that is why, from the financial point of view, we can make no answer. But, if we are assured of receiving this additional revenue, this question of the reduction of the stamp duties is one which, along with the other demands which have been placed before the House, shall receive full and due consideration.'

* Mr. SAMI VENKATACHALAM CHETTI :—" Have I a right of reply ? "

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" No. "

* The hon. Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—" Sir, I am very thankful to my hon. Colleague the Finance Member for the very able manner in which he put the case before the House. Of course, I am glad that the hon. the Finance Member was very sympathetic in his speech. The point that he made clear to the House was that he had got various demands made by the hon. Members of this House and various resolutions had been passed, each involving increased cost to Government. How are Government going to carry out all these resolutions if you are going to diminish the sources of revenue? That is the question to be solved. What I wish to tell the hon. Members of this House is that when we actually get the amount of money released by the wiping out of the Provincial contributions, Government will consider the question of reducing the stamp duties. My hon. Friend Mr. Saldanha asked the question, what has become of the Taxation Enquiry Committee's proposals and whether the Government of India have called for the remarks of this Government. I said at the beginning of my speech that we have referred the question, to the Board of Revenue and we are awaiting the report from the Board of Revenue. When we get the report we shall also then consider the question of reducing the stamp duties. As a matter of fact, I agree that this is a very important matter and requires very serious consideration."

The motion was put to the House and adopted.

* Mr. SAMI VENKATACHALAM CHETTI :—" Sir, I rise to move

' that the allotment of Rs. 46,000 for charges for the sale of judicial stamps be reduced by Rs. 100, to discuss the question of reduction of court-fees.'

"I should like in this connexion to refer to some of the points raised by the hon. the Finance Member, whose assistance the hon. the Home Member greatly appreciated. Sir, the hon. the Finance Member has very adroitly evaded answering the question direct. It is no doubt true that several demands have been made on the anticipated additional income and I should like to have a direct answer from Government which of these demands they are going to admit. When we ask for increased revenue, you set off one demand against another, you do nothing and twit with arguments of this nature. No promises have been made. In this connexion, I would like to draw the attention of the hon. the Finance Member to the speech made by Sir Charles Todhunter on 17th February 1922. He said :

' Lastly, Sir, I believe it has been urged that these taxes are not necessary. As to that, I need only say that, if it can be shown in the course of the budget debate that there is any other proper way of meeting the deficit, there will be no need to pass the Bills into law.'

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“ Even at that time, even during the year in which this Bill was passed, it was stated that if there was no deficit in that budget there was no necessity for the increase of the stamp duties. When the question was again raised, Sir Charles Todhunter again answered :

‘ With reference to the statement that has been made that we are asking for this extra taxation in order to meet enhanced expenditure, I should like to say at once that the deficit is not due to enhancement of expenditure, but to a reduction of our normal revenue. The reduction has been caused by the activities of the revolutionary party. Whether this is going to be a continuing loss or not has yet to be seen. I certainly hope that, in so far as concerns the activities of the revolutionary party, it will not. There remains, however, the question, whether the strong feeling in this House in favour of temperance, a feeling, I may say, which is entitled to every respect, is going to result in such a reduction in our excise revenue as to make it necessary for us to find some other increasing source of income. ’

“ In this part of his speech at least, Sir Charles Todhunter has contemplated that in case of remission, the temperance propaganda should have precedence for the consideration of Government and that he would set off this income against the loss entailed by partial prohibition. I should like to have a similar assurance from the hon. Mr. Moir and the hon. the Home Member whether they are prepared to use the anticipated additional income towards any reduction that may be caused to the excise revenue by introducing prohibition. At any rate, on behalf of this side of the House, I shall assure them, then that we shall not press for the decrease of allotments, and satisfy ourselves at least in one respect. Merely to set off one against another is simply not fair. With these remarks, Sir, I move that the allotment be curtailed by Rs. 100.”

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—“ Sir, we have two questions,—one Judicial stamps and the other of Court-fee stamps. The position is shortly this : that some time ago three arguments were advanced for the purpose of pleading for a decrease in these charges. The first was the financial position of the province. That aspect of the matter has been dealt with by my two hon. Colleagues and I do not propose to travel over the same ground. But there was another argument which was often advanced during the various debates on this question, and that was based upon the assumption that the administration of justice was an indubitable source of profit to Government and that, therefore, it was inequitable that Government should derive a further increase in profit arising, in the picturesque language of one Member, out of what was termed a ‘ sale of justice ’. As to that, I think, I was able, or rather I flatter myself I was able, on the last occasion when this question was raised, to demonstrate, as probably I shall have occasion to demonstrate once again, that after all the factors in relation to the administration of justice were taken into account and the balance in income and expenditure struck, then it would not be correct to say that the administration of justice was a source of profit. I leave it at that for the moment.

“ The third and more important argument, and an argument to which I I propose to address myself particularly, was advanced, I think, by Mr. Venkataramana Ayyangar on one occasion and has been repeated afterwards by other hon. and learned Members and that was that the present incidence that the present rates of court fees and stamps are inequitable and are lopsided, and it was pointed out that by reason of such increase, not equitably distributed among all the proper subjects for taxation, the institution of suits in various places had fallen down considerably. That question was raised in 1924 and again in 1925. In 1925, Government invited the

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opinions of the hon. the Judges and various District Judges and Bar Associations, Subordinate Judges and District Munsifs, and the balance of opinion, the preponderance of opinion, was that in one class of suits, viz., land suits, the incidence of court-fees at the present moment was calculated to deter what may be called the smaller or the petty litigant. The opinion, on the other hand, was that in regard to the other categories of litigation there was not the same difficulty. At this juncture, there came upon the scene the Taxation Enquiry Committee. As I have adverted to the topic on another occasion, I shall do no more than repeat that, according to the recommendations of the Taxation Enquiry Committee's report, it is necessary to survey the whole question of judicial stamps and court-fee stamps, in order to make one distinction perfectly obvious and clear, viz., not to discourage what may be called luxury litigation or luxury suits and not to penalise the ordinary transactions by way of mortgage or sale. In view of this consideration, during the budget debates of last year, I pointed out that this matter was engaging the consideration of Government.

"At the present moment, I may say that the Government of India have announced that they propose, if the Local Governments also agree, to have all-India legislation for the purpose of equalizing and levelling the court fees. The reason why they suggested all-India legislation was that in certain cases it happened that by way of evasion, alternative jurisdictions were resorted to in order that litigants may avail themselves of the possibilities of going to the cheapest locality. From that point of view, the Government of India have told us that they are considering the possibility of all-India legislation. And all that I can at the present moment say on the matter is, as I said in my speech on the last occasion dealing with this matter, that I realize that the present rates of court fees have worked hardships with regard to certain classes of land suits and certain classes of money transactions." 4 p.m.

Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR:—"Lip sympathy."

* The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR:—"With reference to the interruption of my hon. Friend from Coimbatore who is always a'droit in interrupting, I may say that he must remember that I am a lawyer and my natural tendency will be in favour of cheap litigation. But quite apart from that, the Government of India are considering the subject of all-India legislation in order to get rid of some of the inequalities of the present system; and all that I can say is that when the Government of India asks for our opinion, in all probability very soon, we shall give our opinion on the matter. Speaking for myself, my opinion is on record and the position that I desire to take is that if within say three months or six months no such step is taken, I have no objection to appoint a committee for the purpose of considering this matter in order that the inequalities referred to may be reduced by a suitable amendment of the Court Fees Act."

* Mr T. C. SRINIVASA AYYANGAR:—"Sir, I carefully listened to the speech of the hon. the Law Member, and I must say that it is exceedingly unsatisfactory. After the Reforms, the revenue from court fees was assigned as a provincial revenue. Our legislature in 1922 raised by about 50 per cent the *ad valorem* fees. In many matters where the fixed fee system was prevailing, such fixed fees were also enhanced. The valuation system was in some cases altered. The amendment of the Court Fees Act as passed

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by this House works oppressively in several ways. It affects not merely by a direct increase in the rate of court fees but also by the method of valuation. By these, the rate has been, in effect, increased several times. I will illustrate it. The valuation of certain classes of suits has been increased. Even if the rate of the fee is not increased, by the valuation being increased it would come to more than twice and in certain classes of cases, thrice as much as the original court fee. In addition, the rate having been increased, the court fee demanded works several times more. The increase is not merely in institution fees but also in fees on applications, in fees on the copy stamps, etc. Moreover, in the matter of irregularly stamped documents which came in as evidence, the courts impose the fullest penalty in addition to the stamp duty without reference to the difficulties in which the parties to the original documents were placed. The courts have no option but to impose the fullest penalty and the stamp duty. All these relate to the original courts. Then, in the first appeal and second appeal, the higher rate works out to a big figure. Now the poor unfortunate litigant is obliged to pay several times the amount of court fee he used to pay previously, merely in order to have justice. The present court fee system is exceedingly unjust. Coming as I do from a district which has contributed a large and a decent portion to the court fees of this Presidency, I think I am entitled to speak with some amount of experience, and I may say that even on the richer classes of litigants, the court fee is really pressing hard. Now there are one or two small points in which the court fee is unconsciously raised. In the amendment to the Court Fees Act, exception was provided in the case of small causes. Originally the Select Committee provided that in small causes up to Rs. 500 which may be heard by the Small Cause Courts the original rate of court fee was retained. You, Sir, then a Member of this House, brought forward an amendment by which suits which are filed as small causes in their nature but tried on the original side, should have the same court fee, and the House passed that amendment, and the result was the schedule was amended to that extent. Now the small cause jurisdiction has been extended from Rs. 500 to Rs. 1,000 by a notification issued by the High Court in July last year. The moment this notification was made, provision should also have been made, that small causes up to Rs. 1,000 may be filed on the lower rate of court fee. But there was no corresponding notification by the Government under section 35 of the Court Fees Act which gives power to the Government to reduce or modify the court fees. As a consequence, this peculiarly tragical or comical result ensued, namely, suits up to the value of Rs. 500 can pay the lower rate, but if the suit is of the value of Rs. 600, he cannot pay the lower rate even for Rs. 500 out of the Rs. 600. He has to pay the higher rate for all the Rs. 600. Some litigants, perhaps wiser than others, thought that it was better that their suits should still be tried as small causes and therefore limited their claims to Rs. 500 giving up small portions over and above Rs. 500. So, the point which I wish to urge is that this is a pressing evil and our request must be sympathetically considered by the Government. The hon. the Law Member who is a lawyer and who may be expected to realize the difficulties, should see that justice is justly rendered. The present rate of court fees does not facilitate the means of getting justice. The hon. the Law Member said that the real criterion in the matter of court fee was the time that a particular suit takes in trial. The time taken up in the trial of a small cause is much less than that taken in the trial of

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an original suit, because the small cause suit is tried in a summary manner, and the Judge need not record evidence *in extenso* and can write a far briefer judgment. Several cases on the small cause side are disposed of in a day. Because the suits are tried in a summary way, many cases are filed and the number of small causes has increased. If we have to wait for action to be taken till information is obtained by the Government of India from all the provinces, we may have to wait for several years. Are we to deprive litigants of the benefit of the old rates in Small causes exceeding the value of Rs. 500 till the Government of India moves in the matters? As regards the higher rate of the court-fee, it is exceedingly pressing particularly in money suits. In the Presidency Small Cause Courts Act there is a provision that in the case of suits withdrawn or compromised out of court before trial, the parties can have half the court-fee refunded. Such a provision may be advantageously introduced in the Court-fees Act also, so that it may be an inducement to the people to settle their cases themselves agreeably to both the parties without the time of the court being taken in trial. We may try that, and it will be an appreciable relief to the people. There are several other matters in which the court-fees may be readjusted and reduced, and I am not going to weary the House with any detailed description, although every one of them, I am sure, will appeal to the House. I think it is time that we have a committee of the House or a departmental committee to consider the matter so that we may have the necessary amendments in a most urgent matter like this. The hon. the Law Member said that there was a difference between luxury litigation and necessary litigation. It no doubt sounds very well but what is luxury litigation? Speaking from my experience of 27 years, I may say that many of the so-called cases are very trivial. But in the Ramnad district from which I come and which I represent, whenever there is any increase in the number of suits in the courts one may feel sure that there is some trouble in trade either in Burma, the Straits Settlements or in other places, for, most of the people have got trade relations with those places. Whenever there is trouble in Burma or elsewhere there is a large influx of litigation. People who have lent or given money and are unable to recover it come to court in order to get their claims converted to decrees, and they are obliged to pay more. Is it to be called a luxury suit or a necessary suit? I make a present of this instance to the hon. the Law Member and would ask him to consider whether this is a luxury or a necessity, so that the Government may pay some fraction of it at least. Therefore what I say is that the largest bulk of litigation in this Presidency is really litigation in which the people cannot recover their dues from others in time owing to trade and other troubles which ensue. After all, the so called luxury litigation is very small. Anyway the Act requires revision and that, very soon, and I submit that the Government should really take early steps without waiting for action to be taken in other provinces or by the Government of India."

* Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—" Mr. President, Sir, I always objected to the taxation in India and especially in this Presidency under the court-fees system as a fraud on justice and profiteering at the cost of justice to the detriment of a large number of poor classes of people. I think my contention is supported by the very Budget estimates that are put in our hands. For, I find, Sir, that the income from judicial stamps comes to 1½ crores for the year 1927-28. In the current year it is 1 crore and 49 lakhs. So we have got only a lakh of rupees more for our next year. But the expenditure

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under the head of Administration of Justice comes to 98 lakhs, that is a little less than a crore of rupees. So, Sir, we make a profit of about half a crore of rupees every year. I mean Government makes this profit, and this Council has not been a party to this fraud on justice. The British people are very proud and we in India are very proud of the great principle laid down in the Magna Carta, that the King shall not sell justice. But here in India, justice is sold and Government is profiteering in the administration of justice by means of court-fees. I am sure it would be the experience of almost every Member here how often people have to forego their legitimate right of litigation on account of the High Court fees which are now increased enormously by 50 per cent. It is a great injustice on the poor class of litigants especially and, also I am sure, on the richer classes. After all, what are called luxury suits must be very small. Very few people, one in a thousand, might enjoy the luxury of litigation. But what is difficult to find out is the real distinction between real and luxury litigation. I believe the hon. the Law Member has referred to the libel suits. A suit for damages on account of libel or defamation might be a luxury suit. But even then, if I am really defamed before the public, surely it is my right to establish my reputation by a suit or lose my reputation in the world. I think it might be far worse for me to lose my reputation than to lose thousands of rupees in a monetary transaction. If I then go to court to establish my reputation will that be a luxury litigation? I fear therefore that it will be dangerous to draw a line between luxury litigation and non-luxury litigation. I think further that the recommendations of the Taxation Enquiry Committee in this respect are, on the whole, very fair. What I would urge is that a committee of this House be appointed to go into the whole question and to express an opinion on this matter. These recommendations of the Committee may be placed before the House before the hon. the Law Member finally conveys his opinion or the opinion of the Cabinet to the Government of India. Surely we are entitled, after having passed the Act in favour of increased taxation, to express our opinion in the momentous change that should take place in the system of Court-fees and other similar Acts."

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—" You will permit me to speak again on this matter in view to some important considerations that have been adduced by certain hon Members who have spoken. I may at once say that I am in a position to agree with two contentions which have been put forward. I think the point made by the hon. and learned Member from Madura with reference to the small cause jurisdiction, which has been increased to Rs. 1,000, that point is a legitimate one inasmuch as he has succeeded in pointing out that, whereas under the old rules fees had to be paid up to 500 at a particular scale, under the new rules, if the value be six hundred, the whole scale is different. As he has very rightly pointed out, action may be taken in exercise of the rule-making power under the Act and I propose to do it quite irrespective of the amendment of the Act. If I find no objection to that course—and I do not expect to find any—a notification will be issued under section 35 of the Act. I may say, therefore, that I can act at once herein. The other question with reference to the withdrawal of suits has been dealt with, as my hon. Friend will realize, by the Civil Justice Committee. With reference to that, it is not only a question of *ex parte* suits but the question is with reference to suits decided by confession or otherwise, without actual trial before, what

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may be called, a contested decree takes effect. Similar rules are found in the Small Cause Courts Act. My hon. Friend, no doubt, knows that I pleaded before the Civil Justice Committee that this rule should be extended to all Courts. The Civil Justice Committee accepted that recommendation and have stated that that should be done. In that matter also, I think I may say, that this question will be investigated into, irrespectively of the general revision of the Act as part of the Civil Justice Committee's recommendations which are now being dealt with by the Government, one by one. Now, Sir, my hon. and learned Friend raised another point in a manner which was not in consonance with the very forcible way which generally characterises him. He raised a doubt whether there were any cases of suits that could be classed as luxury suits. Sixty-five or seventy-five per cent of the suits by reversioners, many declaratory suits, many others for receivers, many others which are called suits *quia timet* for preventive relief—these may be termed luxury suits and litigants may be expected to pay more than for suits for recovery of money or for vindication of mere right."

Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—"Honour."

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—"My hon. Friend refers to libel and defamation. That class of suits is not as usual in this country as in other countries and we need not take notice of that. Hardly 2 per cent of the litigation in the Indian Courts generally, except perhaps on the Original Side, are for libel or defamation. The hon. Member for Cuddalore speaks of temple honours. That is an addition to the class of suits that I referred to. The question of *tulasi* rights often contested with very great vehemence or holy water, that class of suits may pay more. In this case, the best solution is what has been indicated in the closing remarks of the Member for Madura, viz., that Government should have the opinion of a committee and lay down definitely the rules by which the levelling up and levelling down the court-fees shall take place. I shall bear that in my mind and with the concurrence of my colleagues, inaugurate a committee for the purpose."

* Mr. S. MUTTAYYA MUDALIYAR :—"Mr. President, Sir, I thought there would be no necessity to talk on this resolution but for some remarks of the hon. the Law Member. It is true that he admitted the contention, and he also did so in the year 1925, that justice ought not to be a source of revenue. I am glad the hon. the Law Member has made that statement. In the year 1925, whether he or his Secretary Mr. Krishnama Achariyar, I do not remember, attempted to show that in justice Government were not making a profit. Even at that time it was stated in the House that they were not working at a profit though the arguments were not convincing. I very much doubt if the hon. the Law Member himself was convinced of the correctness of the statement of the Secretary. I do not think any further answer to the statement is necessary except to refer to the administration of civil justice for the year 1925-26, where the Judges of the High Court have said that in the administration of justice Government are making a profit of Rs. 60 lakhs a year. I think that budget discussion was in 1925; on the 1st October 1926, this is what the Judges of the High Court say that the total receipts for Civil, Criminal and Revenue Courts in the Presidency in 1925 amounted to Rs. 1,56,34,425 and the charges to Rs. 96,96,641, leaving a surplus of Rs. 59,37,781. That is nearly 60 lakhs of rupees. I do not think the hon. the Law Member would wish to refer to the arguments,

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which he advanced in 1925 against this statement of the learned Judges of the High Court."

* The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—" On a question of fact, I am sorry I must say that the hon. Judges of the High Court have lost consideration of certain figures and I propose while dealing with the demand to point out that it is not really a source of profit."

* Mr. S. MUTTAYYA MUDALIYAR :—" Mr. President, it is entirely open to the hon. the Law Member to show that the judges have been wrong in coming to that conclusion. This report has been placed before the Government and the Government have not objected to the statement made by the hon. Judges. Government accepted the report of the hon. the High Court and made certain remarks on it. And Mr. Krishnama Achariyar, the Law Secretary, who made that statement to the Council that judicial administration was not making a profit must and ought to have been aware of this statement in the report, for, he comments on various matters contained in it. So, I take it, that the Government, by this report, have accepted the statement that they are making a profit. I do remember certain circumstances which the hon. the Law Member referred to on the previous occasion to show that this department is not a source of profit of only the cost of buildings, pension charges and some other things had been taken into account. I think I showed on that occasion that the costs of the buildings are met from ordinary revenues and ought not to be taken into consideration, and interest ought not to be charged. Because, if it is met from capital expenditure and the capital had been borrowed and spent for the maintenance of these buildings, the Government are entitled to charge interest. But surely the practice is when money is spent from revenues of the year it is not liable to the levy of interest and the amount spent on these buildings ought not to be taken into consideration. Another thing which the hon. Member referred to, I remember, is the pensions of the retired officials. Probably the hon. the Law Secretary said, I do not remember who it was, that the pension would not go beyond 10 or 12 lakhs. Assuming that it is 10 or 12 lakhs, there is still 38 lakhs and what we want is a reduction of a lesser amount. With these few words, I support the proposition."

The motion was put and adopted.

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" As the question of stamps is disposed of I do not think a particular item about the reduction of copy stamps from 3 annas to 2 annas need be discussed separately. I wish to know whether any of the gentlemen who have given notice of it wish to move it now."

Mr. SAMI VENKATACHALAM CHETTI :—" No, Sir."

* Rao Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU :—" I move—

'To reduce the allotment of Rs. 1,80,100 for Stamps--General by Rs. 100.'

My object is to discuss the policy of the Government in regard to the amendment of the Stamp Act so as to admit of unstamped pro-notes on payment of penalty. Sir, before the recent amendment of the Stamp Act, all promotes whether payable to bearer or on demand were liable to pay a stamp duty of one anna. After the amendment of the Act, those which are above the value of Rs. 250 are liable to pay a higher stamp duty than one anna. In the Stamp Act, there is a provision enabling insufficiently stamped documents or unstamped documents to be admitted on payment of a penalty, and the documents which are not duly stamped may then be admitted in evidence.

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I want to request that the Act might be suitably amended so that, except in the case of a pro-note which is liable to be stamped with one anna stamp, other pro-notes which are liable to pay a stamp duty of more than one anna may be admitted on payment of penalty. The reason is, Sir, that there is much hardship and difficulty felt by ignorant people who do not know the recent changes made in the Act that a higher duty is to be paid. Such people may be relieved of considerable anxiety. For that reason, I move my motion."

* The hon. Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—"Sir, this question was once considered by the Government, and the Government of India thought that it was desirable, in the interests of uniformity, to retain the power to legislate on this matter by the Indian Legislature. The amendment now proposed is a matter for the Indian Legislature to deal with, and not for this Council."

Rao Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU :—"I may state, Sir, that when a similar amendment was tabled by a Member of the Legislative Assembly they said it was a matter for the provincial Governments to deal with, if they were in favour of such an amendment. And my hon. Friend the Home Member has told me that the question should be raised in the Indian Legislature. But apart from that, I bring to the notice of this Government this fact, so that this Council and this Government may resolve that they are in favour of it, and then it will be easy for any Members of the Legislative Assembly to introduce an amending Bill. I therefore hope that the Government will kindly consider the matter and recommend that the Act may be suitably amended in the manner indicated above."

The hon. Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—"Sir, I am prepared to examine the question again and address the Government of India, if necessary."

Rao Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU :—"Then I have no objection to withdraw the motion, Sir."

The motion was by leave withdrawn.

* Mr. M. A. MANIKKAVELU NAYAKAR :—"Sir, in view of the fact that the hon. the Home Member has given an assurance that he will recommend to the Government of India that the Act should be amended, I beg to withdraw my motion."

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—"Is the hon. Member not moving his motion?"

* Mr. M. A. MANIKKAVELU NAYAKAR :—"No, Sir."

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—"Motion not made. Then I shall put Demand III to the House."

Demand III—Stamps—for Rs. 4·85 lakhs *minus* Rs. 200. was then put and adopted, and the Grant was made.

DEMAND IV—FORESTS.

The hon. Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—"Sir, I move,
'that the Government be granted a sum not exceeding Rs. 44·21 lakhs under Forests.'"

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Mr. S. SATYAMURTI :—" Sir, I rise to move

'that the allotment of Rs. 1,00,400 for General Direction be reduced by Rs. 100.'

" And my object is to discuss the uneconomic administration of the department. I do not want to address any very long speech, Mr. President, but to merely draw the attention of the hon. the Home Member and of this hon. House to the fact that in the Budget Estimates for the year 1927-28, the Government have budgeted for a revenue of Rs. 56·83 lakhs, whereas the expenditure comes to something over Rs. 49 lakhs. Now, Sir, I should like to know from the hon. the Home Member why the administration of forests by this Government should be so uneconomic. I know, Mr. President, that recently the experiments of the Government of Madras in commercial undertakings with regard to forests have not been very much of a success, and the fault, I think, lies to a certain extent at least with the Government. Sir, I have some figures with regard to forest administration in other provinces, which, I hope, the hon. Member will take down and ponder over. These figures are for 1926-27. In Bengal the income is Rs. 27 lakhs and the expenditure Rs. 17·16 lakhs. In Bombay, the income is Rs. 73·89 lakhs and the expenditure comes to Rs. 37·72 lakhs. Perhaps one reason for this successful administration is, I think, that the forests are a transferred subject in Bombay. In the United Provinces the income is Rs. 58·73 lakhs and the expenditure Rs. 34·28 lakhs; in the Central Provinces, the income is Rs. 56·51 lakhs and the expenditure is Rs. 39·15 lakhs; in the Punjab the income is Rs. 43·57 lakhs and the expenditure 34·28 lakhs. Burma, I recognize it, stands on a different footing, and the figures are income Rs. 190 lakhs, expenditure Rs. 94·62 lakhs. It seems to me, Sir, compared to these figures, our figures are so sad that some explanation ought to be forthcoming from the Government as to why we are not able to make our forests pay more. I recognize, Mr. President, that our forests form the natural wealth of this nation and that any Government worth its name must spend a certain amount of money to keep those forests to see that they are not destroyed. I recognize they help the rainfall in the country and they add to the natural beauty and scenery of the land. Even then, it seems to me that with an economic administration, the forests will pay. In our own province, that the margin of profit should be so small must be due to uneconomic administration. I do hope that the hon. the Home Member with the help of the experts will have the question examined carefully so that economies may be effected in expenditure, and we may be able to launch on paying schemes by which while the State spends some money upon keeping these forests intact, the State may also be adequately reimbursed.

" Sir, this matter is not brought for the first time in this House. Ever since I have been here, such motions have been moved and the Government have promised consideration. They have done nothing so far. I therefore beg to move this motion and I commend it to the House in the hope that it will be carried as a censure against the uneconomic administration of the forests by the Government of Madras, and to ask the Government of Madras to take steps to make this department a paying concern, as it is in other sister provinces."

* The hon. Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—" Sir, the question of the uneconomic administration of this department has been raised by my hon. Friend for the University. In the course of his speech he

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said that it ought to produce more revenue as is the case in other provinces. Before dealing with that question, I should like to read to the hon. Members of this House an extract from the report of the Chief Conservator on the subject. It is from the Forest Administration Report for 1924-25, and it has been published. It is this :

'They (the commercially valuable forests) are situated chiefly in remote and rough mountainous country, and in order to obtain from them the return which they are capable of yielding, considerable capital expenditure was necessary on buildings, roads and plant. On the other hand, the far less intrinsically valuable forests of the plains yielded a considerable net revenue. They lie for the most part in populous tracts and the produce is removed by the purchasers themselves ; little or no expenditure was therefore needed on roads and buildings, and the cost of management was to a great extent limited to the pay of the establishment required to collect the revenue from forest produce and grazing, and to prevent or detect offences. In pre-war days when a forest guard was paid Rs. 8 per mensem, the cost of this establishment was far less than the revenue which was so easily obtained, and there was no great inducement to embark on a policy of exploiting tracts where to obtain revenue considerable expenditure was first necessary. The minor forests from which the bulk of the revenue came were incapable of much development. The revenue could not therefore be increased, and when the post-war rise in salaries took place the forests no longer paid their way. The result was that the Forest department which had previously returned a fairly handsome income to the State began to yield very little, and in fact in one year was worked at a loss'.

"In the passage that I have just now read, you find an explanation as to why we are only getting Rs. 2 lakhs now while about ten years ago we got about Rs. 10 lakhs. The Government know that that is the case and are at one with the hon. Member for the University in thinking that something should be done to make the Forest Department a revenue producing department. My hon. Friend for the University said : 'the hon. the Home Member will examine this question with the help of experts.' I may tell for the information of this House that in April 1926 the Government came to the conclusion that something should be done in regard to this matter, and requested the Chief Conservator to have a report drawn up pointing out clearly to Government what steps should be taken in order to make forests a revenue-producing department. I am glad to say that that report has been drawn up by Mr. Pearce in consultation with Mr. Martin, our Chief Forest Engineer, as my hon. Friend for the University desired, and that report is now before the Government. That report clearly lays down what we should do for the next five years in order to make the Forest department a revenue-producing department. So the object of my hon. Friend has already been carried out. What the hon. Member for the University said was that they should pass this motion as a censure so that the Government may do something in order to make the forests pay. I am extremely glad to say that Government have already taken steps in that direction, and the voluminous report of Mr. Pearce as to what we should do to increase the forest revenue is now before my hon. Colleague the Finance Member. I therefore hope that this motion will not be pressed."

* Rao Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU :—"Sir, I have heard the hon. the Home Member speaking of the report—the contents of which are not known to us—which has been submitted by the special officer in consultation with the Chief Conservator. What exactly the purport of the report is, the hon. the Home Member has discreetly not divulged or even outlined to this House. We in this House have to consider two aspects of the case, first, the administration of the forests in relation to the people in the villages and secondly, the exploitation of valuable forests with a view to revenue. I do not know whether any reference has been made by the special officer to these aspects of the matter.

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p.m.

[Mr. B. Muniswami Nayudu]

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The reason for which a large establishment is maintained—they do not intend it—is merely to harass the ryots. Sir, a large number of forests classed as I or II are really forests which grow small timber, small firewood trees and nothing more. For them a large establishment is maintained, and the villager has to pay high rates, and what more, a decent sum of 2 or 3 lakhs is collected by way of fines and forfeitures. That is the income that my Friend the Home Member shows as a small budget surplus and takes credit for. In the report that he read, of the Chief Conservator in 1925, he says there are a large number of really valuable forests which are not accessible and on which a large expenditure is necessary. Therefore he abandons them. Then the department turns to other forests where they want to make money. These are called reserve forests. They cut up the growths once in 10 or 20 years and they fine everybody whose cattle happen to stray there. We have urged in this House for the last six years that the policy of the Forest department is not on sound lines. They may leave small forests to the control of the village panchayats and the activities of the department may be confined to really valuable forests. There are a large number of forests in the Chittoor district, and except small portions which are valuable, all the others consist of small hills or big hills, and there are tens and hundreds of villages depending on these forests. When once the ryot's cattle stray into them, which cannot be helped, they are fined. I know of forest lines running right into the middle of villages. Of course, some relief is afforded by means of panchayats. I was a member of the committee to classify forests which can be handed over to ryots along with two other non-officials and three officials. We, non-officials, protested against certain forests being retained as Government forests and not classed as 'ryots' forests. I do not know what exactly happened. The hon. the Home Member must have supported his representatives in the district—the District Collector and the District Forest Officer. I want to point out to the hon. the Home Member that the Chandra-giri and Panapakam forests contain nothing but ordinary fuel growth and deserved to be handed to panchayats. When I asked the district officers as to why instead of going to bigger forests they conserved these forests and why they have coupe lines constructed and fine the cattle which stray there they said 'these are the only one which are easily accessible and here is the demand and so we conserve them.' That is the way in which they make money and show to the country by their budgets how large sums are realized by Forests. I would request the hon. the Home Member to see that the non-official opinion of the committee would be respected. Therefore if I support this motion, it is with a view to express the opinion of the House, repeated not once but year after year, at the way in which State forests are managed; they are managed more with a view to revenue than to affording relief to the people who are living by, and therefore to the extent to which they would relieve these sources of friction between the Forest department and the ryots, to that extent, they would have justified themselves in continuing this department."

* Mr. K. R. VENKATARAMA AYYAR :—"Mr. President, Sir, the object of my motion was simply to bring home to the Government the necessity for a clear enunciation of the policy in respect of the administration of forests in the country. The revenue that the Forest department brings to the provincial exchequer is very negligible indeed. In that state of circumstances, the country should at least have the satisfaction that in the matter of growing new forests in place of the denudation which is going on, and in the matter

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of managing the commercial side of the business, the operations of the Government are carried on on right lines. No doubt, so far as the growing of trees is concerned, it will have to be undertaken and carried on on a scientific basis, and while forests are disappearing on one side, it must be our concern to see that they are growing forests on the other side to take their place, so that we would never have to contemplate the possibility of the country being denuded altogether of the necessary forests. But so far as the removal is concerned, it is essentially in the nature of a commercial undertaking. It is a question whether Government need a costly staff merely to be in charge of operations for felling and removing. That perhaps is a portion of the business of the Forest department which can well be left to be carried out by private agencies. Contractors may be found to take up this work on terms profitable to Government. The time must soon be reached when the operation of felling and removing can be transferred altogether from the department to private agencies. That would be a step which would help to reduce the expenditure on the Forest department.

“My object, as I said, is the friendly object of drawing from the department a clear enunciation of their policy in the matter. I will therefore not stand between the House and the authority on behalf of the Government who may throw some light on this point. It does not appear that enough light has been thrown on this subject by the hon. the Home Member.”

* MR. T. ADINARAYANA CHETTIYAR :—“The administration of the Forest department in our Province presents a unique spectacle. With the wealth of material at their disposal, the Government are literally leading a hand-to-mouth existence. I would not object to that if the people at least are getting some small benefit. As my hon. Friend from Chittoor has said, the people are not at all benefited. The difficulties which are felt by the people in Chittoor, North Arcot and Salem owing to the illiberal forest policy of Government are really very great. As regards the grazing fees, we had, only the other day, the spectacle of the Government raising the grazing fees in Cuddapah at the present famine season. Government after a strong agitation consented to postpone it at the last moment. The division of cattle into necessary and unnecessary is causing a real hardship and making agriculture more difficult. The forest reserve line is often, though not in the middle of a village, in several cases is just bordering on the cultivated field, so that the ryots' cattle very naturally have to stray there, and once they stray there, we know how the ryot fares at the hands of the forest menials. As regards green manure—for North Arcot, it is very necessary—the Government has acted in a very undignified manner. They said that several districts did not require any green manure and even though they had to admit that in North Arcot green manure was necessary, they have so far done nothing. They issued a Government Order in May 1925 to the effect that the question of allowing green manure to the North Arcot people at a reasonable rate would be considered. They are still considering and considering and, as usual, are bringing forth nothing. We all joined together and several protests were made but all to no purpose. If we spend so much and get nothing where does all this money go? The simple answer is that the top heavy administration accounts almost entirely for the whole of the money now spent on the department. Take the number of Conservators and Extra Assistant Conservators. If in any other department there are, say, 500 subordinates probably you may find some five or six officers to control them. But in the case of the Forest department, for a certain number

[Mr. T. Adinarayana Chettiyar] [16th March 1927]

of rangers you have a disproportionate number of Conservators and Extra Assistant Conservators, super-numeraries and so on with the result that you have got to-day in Government employ a number of people who are known by the unenviable name of 'supernumerary' officers. This, in itself, is a sufficient condemnation of the way in which the department is being managed. While supernumerary officers are fed like white elephants, lower officers like rangers suffer and their lot is not at all ameliorated in spite of representations. Again, there is the luxury of a Forest College. It is only a machinery for manufacturing more rangers, while even the existing rangers are not fully employed and their prospects are not bettered. Then we have a research establishment. I think it is time that it is abolished. Research is of an all-India importance. Therefore it is not right that the finances of the province should be charged with the maintenance of that establishment. Most of the money that we make in the forests goes to the specialists under fancy names, such as research officers, exploitation officers, regeneration officers and what not. They are all imported. If Madras were a progressive place like Japan, they would bring the experts and get out of them all that it is necessary for them to know and send them away. But in this country, if a foreign officer comes, he comes to stay for ever. There is no exit for him. It is that which takes away the money for which the ryot sweats.

"Next to that, is the uneconomical, uncommercial management of commercial undertakings. The Russellkonda muddle is still stinking in our nostrils. Then there is the Chenat Nayar. What is the origin of it. The saw mill was started for the European planters of Malabar and Travancore to get their tea chests cheap. It benefits only the European planters. It was given out in the House that a prominent member of Government was a large shareholder in the concern. That fact cannot be concealed by anyone. As for a panchayat officer, there is no necessity for maintaining one. If the forest department is a scientific department, there is no necessity for employing Deputy Collectors from the Revenue department who have had no scientific training.

"One other thing, Sir, and I am done. Unfortunately there is a political aspect to the forest administration. My Friend Mr. C. V. Venkataramana Ayyangar this morning brought to our knowledge the way in which in Kollegal a European family of planters' husband, children, wife, cousins and all, wanted to get assigned to themselves a large area. In the Shevaroyes there is an area of 4,000 acres originally leased to the planters there. There was no survey nor any check to encroachment. Now this 4,000 acres has almost doubled itself in a short time. There is a proposal to assign all these to the planters at a nominal rent. The very Forest department and experienced officers on the spot, I am told protested against it. But my hon. Friend Mr. Tireman, and, I am glad to see him here, has, it seems, asked the Collector to revise this opinion and to see that favourable orders are passed. This one may safely say is a political jobbery of the first magnitude. This is our country, our ancestors' bones are laid here; and for exploiters to come and take this 4,000 acres and then extend it to 8,000 acres and get all this rich land almost as a gift is clearly enough to take one's breath away. I am sorry I have no time to finish this aspect of the matter."

The House adjourned to meet again at 11 a.m. the next day.

R. V. KRISHNA AYYAR,
Secretary to the Legislative Council.

16th March 1927]

APPENDIX I.

[Vide answer to question No. 324 asked by Sriman Biswanath Das Mahasayo at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on the 16th March 1927, page 187 supra.]

Scholarships granted by the Department of Industries.

Institute.	Number of scholars.	Qualifications required of scholars.
State Technical Scholarships tenable abroad.	8 at a time ...	B.A., B.Sc. or B. Eng.
Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore.	14 at a time.	Graduates in Physical Science or Chemistry preferably those with post-graduate training and Honours degree.
Victoria Jubilee Technical Institute, Bombay.	20 or 5 a year.	Secondary School-leaving Certificate.
Leather Trades Institute ...	1 a year ...	Possession of a diploma granted by the Leather Trades Institute, Madras.
Government Textile Institute.	6 a year ...	Secondary School-leaving Certificate or in special cases students with lower qualifications may be awarded scholarships at the discretion of the Director of Industries.
Industrial ● scholarships to pupils learning a trade or profession in recognized Industrial schools and to selected apprentices.	60 a year ...	Standard V.

[16th March 1927]

APPENDIX II.

[Vide answer to question No. 333 asked by Mr. Abdul Hamid Khan at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on the 16th March 1927, page 200 supra.]

Statement showing extent of land reserved and assigned up to 31st December 1926 to ex-army men in the several districts.

Serial number and name of district.			Total extent of land reserved up to 31st December 1926.	Total extent of land assigned up to 31st December 1926.
1.	Anantapur ...	...	1,340·23	361·31
2.	North Arcot ...	...	9,278·96	5,560·04
3.	South Arcot ...	...	5,584·04	1,021·60
4.	Bellary ...	...	4,238·18	808·19
5.	South Kanara ...	...	575·33	71·02
6.	Chingleput ...	...	5,424·08	2,934·85
7.	Chittoor ...	...	1,054·85	84·77
8.	Coimbatore ...	...	8,056·06	1,019·21
9.	Cuddapah ...	...	2,701·43	85·12
10.	Ganjam ...	...	4,250·84	688·20
11.	East Godavari ...	...	3,602·26	408·70
12.	West Godavari ...	...	2,463·01	179·22
13.	Guntur ...	...	1,339·17	678·77
14.	Kistna ...	...	467·14	564·86
15.	Kurnool ...	...	2,511·64	495·39
16.	Madras ...	...	...	...
17.	Madura ...	...	4,508·69	847·00
18.	Ramnad ...	...	225·47	252·22
19.	Malabar ...	...	1,502·62	213·76
20.	Nellore ...	...	2,934·94	542·08
21.	The Nilgiris ..	...	606·23	...
22.	Salem ...	...	2,216·85	950·61
23.	Tanjore ...	...	1,977·58	1,050·72
24.	Tinnevely ...	...	2,952·02	871·80
25.	Trichinopoly ...	...	1,890·09	646·04
26.	Vizagapatam ...	...	993·92	780·68
Total ...			72,695·63	21,187·16

THE MADRAS LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

Thursday, the 17th March 1927.

The House met at 11 o'clock, Mr. President (the hon. Rao Bahadur C. V. S. NARASIMHA RAJU Garu) in the chair.

PRESENT:

Ramaswami Ayyar, K.C.I.E., The hon. Sir C. P.	Madhavan Nayar, Mr. K.
Marjoribanks, C.S.I., C.I.E., The hon. Mr. N. E.	Mahmud Sohamnad Sahib Bahadur.
Usman Sahib Bahadur, The hon. Khan	Mallayya, Dr. B. S.
Bahadur Muhammad.	Manikkavelu Nayakar, Mr. M. A.
Moir, C.S.I., C.I.E., The hon. Mr. T. E.	Marudavanam Pillai, Mr. O.
Subbarayan, The hon. Dr. P.	Moera Ravuttar Bahadur, K. P. V. S.
Ranganatha Mudaliyar, The hon. Mr. A.	Muhammad.
Arogyaswami Mudaliyar, The hon. Diwan	Moidoo Sahib Bahadur, T. M.
Bahadur R. N.	Moore, C.I.E., Mr. P. L.
Abbas Ali Khan Bahadur.	Muniswami Nayudu, Rao Bahadur B.
Abdul Hye Sahib Bahadur, K.	Muniswami Pillai, Mr. V. I.
Abdul Razaek Sahib Bahadur, Khan Bahadur	Muppil Nayar of Kavalappara, Mr.
S. K.	Murugappa Chettiyar, Diwan Bahadur
Abdul Wahab Sahib Bahadur, Munshi.	A. M.
Abdul Hamid Khan Sahib Bahadur.	Muttayya Mudaliyar, Mr. S.
Adinarayana Chettiyar, Mr. T.	Muthulakshmi Reddi, Dr. (Mrs.).
Anjaneyulu, Mr. P.	Muthuranga Mudaliyar, Mr. C. N.
Appavu Chettiyar, Mr. C. D.	Nagan Gowda, Mr. B.
Ari Gowder, Mr. H. B.	Nanjappa Bahadur, Subadar-Major S. A.
Arpudawami Udayar, Mr. S.	Narayana Raju, Mr. D.
Basheer Ahmed Sayeed Sahib Bahadur.	Narayana Rao, Mr. M.
Bazil-ul-lah Sahib Bahadur, C.I.E., C.B.E., Khan	Narayanan Chettiyar, Mr. A. I. Ar.
Bahadur Muhammad.	Narayanan Nambudripad, Rao Bahadur O. M.
Bhaktavatsulu Nayudu, Mr. P.	Narayanaswami Pillai, Mr. T. M.
Bheemayya, Mr. J.	Obi Reddi, Mr. C.
Biswanath Das Mahasayo, Sriman.	Pandrang Rao, Mr. V.
Boag, Mr. G. T.	Parasurama Rao Pantulu, Mr. A.
Chidimbaranatha Mudaliyar, Mr. T. K.	Parthasarathi Ayyangar, Mr. C. R.
Congreve, Mr. C. R. T.	Patro, Kt., Rao Bahadur Sir A. P.
Cotterell, C.I.E., Mr. C. B.	Premayya, Mr. G. R.
Dorai Raja, Mr. S. N.	Raja of Panagal, K.C.I.E.
Ellappa Chettiyar, Rao Sahib S.	Raja of Ramnad.
Ethirajulu Nayudu, Diwan Bahadur P. C.	Rajan, Mr. P. T.
Gangadhara Siva, Mr. M. V.	Ramaachandra Padayachi, Mr. K.
Gopala Menon, Mr. C.	Ramaachandra Reddi, Mr. B.
Govindaraja Mudaliyar, Mr. C. S.	Ramanath Goenka, Mr.
Guruswami, Rao Sahib L. C.	Ramasomayajulu, Mr. C.
Hall, C.B.E., Mr. J. F.	Ramaswami Ayyar, Mr. U.
Hampayya, Rai Sahib M.	Ratnasabapati Mudaliyar, Rao Bahadur C. S.
Harisavottama Rao, Mr. G.	Sahajanandam, Swami A. S.
Hearson, Mr. H. F. P.	Saldanha, Mr. J. A.
John, Mr. V. Ch.	Sami Venkatachalam Chetti, Mr.
Kaleswara Rao, Mr. A.	Sarabha Reddi, Mr. K.
Kameswara Rao Nayudu, Mr. V.	Satyamurti, Mr. S.
Karant, Mr. K. R.	Shetty, Mr. A. B.
Khadir Mohidin Sahib Bahadur, Muhammad.	Sitarama Reddi, Rao Bahadur K.
Koti Reddi, Mr. K.	Siva Raj, Mr. N.
Krishnan, Mr. K.	Siva Rao, Mr. P.
Krishnan Nayar, Diwan Bahadur M.	Sivasubrahmanya Ayyar, Mr. K. S.
Krishnaswami Nayakar, Mr. K. V.	Slater, C.I.E., Mr. S. H.
Kumara Raja of Venkatagiri	Smith, Mr. J. Mackenzie.
Kumaraswami Reddiyar, Diwan Bahadur S.	Soundara Pandia Nadar, Mr. W. P. A.
Kuppuswami, Mr. J.	Srinivasa Ayyangar, Mr. R.
MacDougall, Kt., Sir Alexander.	Srinivasa Ayyangar, Mr. T. C.

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PRESENT—*cont.*

Srinivasan, Rao Sahib R.
 Subrahmanya Moopanar, Mr. S.
 Subrahmanya Pillai, Mr. Chavadi K.
 Swami, Mr. K. V. R.
 Syed Ibrahim Sahib Bahadur.
 Tajudin Sahib Bahadur, Syed.
 Thomas, Mr. Daniel.
 Tiresman, C.I.B., Mr. H.
 Tulasiram, Mr. L. K.
 Uppi Sahib Bahadur, K.
 Vanavudaiya Goundar, Mr. S. V.

Venkatespati Raja, Mr. P. C.
 Venkatarama Ayyar, Mr. K. R.
 Venkatarama Sastri, C.I.B., Mr. T. R.
 Venkataramana Ayyangar, Mr. C. V.
 Venkatarangam Nayudu, Mr. C.
 Venkataratnam, Mr. B.
 Venkiah, Mr. S.
 Wood, Mr. C. E.
 Zamindar of Gollapalli.
 Zamindar of Mirzapuram.
 Zamindar of Seithur.

I

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

[*Order made by the President of the Madras Legislative Council under Standing Order No. 15.*]

1. Starred questions to be put at a meeting of the Council with their answers shall be printed and placed on the Council table an hour before the President takes his seat.

The President will call out the name of each interpellator in the order in which the names are printed, specify the serial number of his question and make a sufficient pause to give him or any other member a reasonable opportunity of rising in his place and putting a supplementary question. Supplementary questions must be put immediately after the principal questions to which they relate.

2. If a member responsible for a starred question happens to be absent when it is called, it will be open either to him or to any other member to put supplemental questions thereon, after the other starred questions for the day have been answered, provided question-time is not thereby exceeded.

3. Questions, not starred, will not be called in Council, but they will be printed with their answers and placed on the table of the House along with the list of starred questions. Oral supplementary questions will not be allowed in regard to unstarred questions.]

STARRED QUESTIONS

Civil Justice

Holidays by the High Court for the Cricket Match.

* 345 Q.—MR. C. N. MUTHURANGA MUDALIYAR: Will the hon. the Law Member, the hon. the Member for Revenue and the hon. the Member for Finance be pleased to state—

(a) whether in connexion with the grant of three holidays by the High Court for the recent cricket match in Madras, the Government were consulted beforehand or not; and

(b) what is the approximate daily cost of running the High Court, including the pay of the Judges and the establishment?

A.—(a) No. The High Court is empowered to grant the holidays.

(b) The attention of the hon. Member is drawn to pages 139–141 of the Civil Budget Estimates for the year 1926–27. The figures given there represent the expenditure for one year.

MR. C. N. MUTHURANGA MUDALIYAR:—"In answer to clause (a) of this question, the Government say that the High Court is empowered to grant holidays. I do not question the power of the High Court. But may I ask whether it does not inconvenience the client population that are staying in the city if holidays are granted offhand and at the will and pleasure of the Judges of the High Court?"

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The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—"As has been pointed out in the answer, the granting of holidays is in the discretion of the High Court. I however understand that the members of the bar who, to a large extent, represent the interests of and are not oblivious to the inconvenience of their clients, were practically unanimous in this matter."

Mr. C. N. MUTHURANGA MUDALIYAR :—"Yes, Sir. I know the members of the bar frequent the Guindy races. Is the High Court going to grant holidays on account of the Guindy races?"

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—"Sir, I do not think it is an accurate statement. Some members of the bar do go to the races. But I do not think the attendance of the members of the bar at the Guindy races can be comparable to their attendance on this occasion."

Mr. C. N. MUTHURANGA MUDALIYAR :—"In this matter also, I am sure the members of the bar were not unanimous in requesting . . ."

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—"The hon. Member is not allowed to make a statement."

Mr. S. SATYAMURTI :—"May I ask the hon. the Law Member whether he is aware that the High Court have agreed to work on some holidays as compensation for these days?"

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—"I am indebted to my hon. Friend. I have heard of that, but I was not quite sure."

Mr. B. S. MALLAYYA :—"Is the hon. the Law Member satisfied, Sir, that the members of the legal profession who witnessed the cricket matches have learnt to play the game?"

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—"Sir, I repudiate the suggestion that the members of my profession do nothing else than play the game."

Rao Bahadur C. S. RATNASABAPATI MUDALIYAR :—"May I know, Sir, whether even if the High Court are empowered to grant holidays there are no rules guiding the same?"

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—"There are no rules fettering discretion of the hon. Judges of the High Court."

Alleged delay in disposal of pending appeals in High Court.

* 346 Q.—Mr. C. N. MUTHURANGA MUDALIYAR : Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that there is considerable delay in the disposal of cases pending before the High Court and, if so, the reasons therefor;

(b) whether it is a fact that for some time past three Judges of the High Court have been habitually sitting on the Original Side, and are not available for work on the Appellate Side;

(c) whether the Government have considered the question of introducing legislation to relieve the work of the High Court by raising the jurisdiction of the City Civil Court to try suits of the value of Rs. 10,000 or less, and by giving it also some insolvency jurisdiction; and

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(d) whether the Government will address the High Court to increase the number of working days by the Judges sitting on Saturdays of those weeks during which there is an additional public holiday?

A.—(a) The attention of the hon. Member is invited to paragraphs 16, 20, 22 and 23 of the report on the statistics of Civil Courts for 1925 [G.O. No. 3615, Law (General), dated 24th November 1926] which has been placed on the Editors' Table. Past arrears and the increase in institutions have made a certain amount of delay inevitable.

(b) Three Judges have been sitting off and on on the Original Side.

(c) The question of increasing the jurisdiction of the City Civil Court to Rs. 10,000 was considered in the year 1918. The decision arrived at was that no change was necessary. Last year the Government considered a proposal for increasing the jurisdiction of the Court to Rs. 5,000 but it was decided that the jurisdiction should remain unaltered for the time being. The question of giving insolvency jurisdiction to the City Civil Court has not been considered so far.

(d) Under the Letters Patent it is for the High Court to determine its holidays.

Appointment of a Provincial Service Officer as Registrar of the High Court.

* 347 Q.—Mr. C. S. GOVINDARAJA MUDALIYAR Will the hon. the Law Member and the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state, with reference to the statement made by him on 22nd March 1924 (page 988 of Proceedings of the Legislative Council) that the place of the Registrar of the High Court would be thrown open to a member of the Bar or a Provincial Service Officer, why effect was not given to it although two opportunities arose since that statement was made?

A.—As already stated in this Council at the meeting held on 24th March 1925, the power of appointment of the Registrar vests, under the amended Letters Patent, in the hon. the Chief Justice.

Mr. S. SATYAMURTI :—“ May I ask the hon. the Law Member whether, in view of his statement on a motion made, I think, by the hon. the Second Minister when he was then on this side of the House, whether he did not give an undertaking that when the next vacancy happened in the appointment of the Registrar of the High Court he would consider and urge upon the hon. the Chief Justice, the claims of an Indian member of the Bar or of the Provincial Civil Service men and whether he has done anything in the matter; and when the next vacancy occurs whether he proposes to do so, and if not, why not? ”

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—“ My hon. Friend the Member for the University is not quite correct in the first portion of his question. What I said was that in answer to a budget motion, in my opinion, a Provincial Service officer or a member of the Bar would be as competent as anybody else and gave an undertaking in the debate that the proceedings would be forwarded to the High Court. That has been done, and if and when the next vacancy occurs, the opinion of the House,—a question has also been tabled in the course of the budget debate,—on that matter will also be forwarded to the High Court.”

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Mr. N. SATYAMURTI :—“ In view of the fact that the resolution of this House and the opinion of the hon. the Law Member have so far had no effect with the Chief Justice, may I ask the hon. the Law Member whether he proposes to take any steps in order to impress on the Chief Justice, in whose hands the patronage rests, that he must do something to satisfy the strong public feeling in the Council on this matter ? ”

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—“ The hon. Member is quite aware that the appointment of the Registrar is wholly vested in the hon. the Chief Justice under the amended Letters Patent. It is, however, within the knowledge of the hon. Member that with regard to the appointment of the Deputy Registrar and the Assistant Registrar, the claims of the Bar and of the Provincial Civil Service have received recognition.”

Irrigation

Protective irrigation works in Guntur district.

* 348 Q.—Mr. P. ANJANEYULU : Will the hon. the Law Member and the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state whether the Government propose to start any protective irrigation works in Guntur district in view of the famine conditions prevailing in that district ?

A.—The project of a reservoir at Pulikonda on the Musi river has for some time been under consideration, and gaugings have been taken for a number of years. The Chief Engineer reports that the work will be taken up for consideration in 1928.

The Government regret that the immediate execution of this work is not feasible.

Mr. P. ANJANEYULU :—“ My question was whether the Government proposed to start any protective irrigation works in Guntur district in view of the famine conditions prevailing in that district, and the answer to it is : ‘ the project of a reservoir at Pulikonda on the Musi river has for some time been under consideration, and gaugings have been taken for a number of years. The Chief Engineer reports that the work will be taken up for consideration in 1928.’ This question, I may say, has been hanging fire for some time past and yet, the Government say that the immediate execution of this work is not feasible. I should like to know whether, on account of the famine conditions prevailing, any protective irrigation work is undertaken or contemplated to be undertaken by the Government this year ? ”

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—“ Sir, this was the work which on account of the conditions described by my hon. Friend as famine, was suggested as expedient for being taken up. The matter was investigated. The materials could not be gathered in time for the budget allotments being made this year. Budget allotments will undoubtedly be made next year in the case of this work.”

Mr. K. V. R. SWAMI :—“ Are there no other works which can be undertaken this year in that district ? ”

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—“ Sir, the department has been requested to consider the feasibility in areas where there are conditions

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of scarcity of investigating the possibility of small works and, if any small works can be taken up, they will be taken up and a statement will be made when the materials are got ready."

Supply of water for irrigation from Red Hills tank.

* 349 Q.—MR. C. N. MUTHURANGA MUDALIYAR: Will the hon. the Law Member and the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government are aware of the widespread grievance of the ryots of Red Hills and other villages under the Red Hills Lake in the Chingleput district that they are not allowed to get sufficient water from the lake for irrigation purposes;

(b) whether it is a fact that the Red Hills Lake is primarily intended for the agricultural ryots of the villages irrigated by the Red Hills Lake; and

(c) whether the Government will consider the advisability of increasing the capacity of the lake?

A.—(a) & (b) The Government have not received any recent representations in the matter but they observe that the Red Hills tank project was primarily undertaken for the supply of drinking water to the City of Madras and consequently the interests of irrigation have, of necessity, to be subordinated to the interests of the City, with a population of over 500,000 depending entirely on this supply for drinking water.

(c) The question of raising the F.T.L. of the tank was considered and it was dropped in 1926, as there were engineering objections to the proposal.

MR. C. N. MUTHURANGA MUDALIYAR:—"Does not the Government know that the ryots of the villages concerned have made representations to the Collector of the district several times?"

THE HON. SIR C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR:—"Yes, Sir. I have before me certain representations made by the ryots in which it was asserted that the primary duty of the Government was to safeguard the irrigation needs of these particular ryots and then and thereafter to look to the water-supply of the city; in other words, that that was the first charge, so to say, on the water. The Government could not accept the position because, when the works were started fifty or sixty years ago, they were started with the definite understanding that the improvement of the Red Hills reservoir was primarily with a view to supply water necessary for the consumption of a growing city which has now practically nearly a population of 600,000. The only question that could be considered feasible was the raising of the F.T.L., and on that matter there has been some correspondence and very strong difference of engineering opinion. As a matter of fact, this is not considered feasible at the present moment. Efforts, however, have been made to see how far we could not reconcile the need of the city for water with the irrigation facilities of those ryots."

MR. C. N. MUTHURANGA MUDALIYAR:—"Considering the fact that fifty years ago, as the hon. the Law Member said, the tank was primarily intended for irrigation. . . ."

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The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—" I suggested just the opposite. The reservoir was primarily intended for the supply of water for the City of Madras and only secondarily for irrigation."

Mr. C. N. MUTHURANGA MUDALIYAR :—" Since when, Sir, was water brought to Madras from the lake ? "

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—" I have got all the papers, but I cannot lay my hand on the particular reference "

Dr. B. S. MALLAYYA :—" In 1872."

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—" I am very much obliged to the hon. Member."

Mr. C. N. MUTHURANGA MUDALIYAR :—" Till then what was being done with the water, may I know ? "

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—" It was initially a very small reservoir used for irrigation purposes to a large extent. The enlargement of the reservoir and the widening of the catchment area, the improvement of the bund and the construction of the anicut and all that which went to make it a good reservoir for the supply of water to the City of Madras was done fifty years ago. Even then the question was raised by the ryots as to where they stood and, from that time it was understood that the first charge upon this reservoir was the supply of potable water to the city."

Mr. S. SATYAMURTI :—" Sir, in view of the answer to clause (a) of this question, and in view of the statement of the hon. the Law Member, may I ask for some further elucidation on the matter? May I ask whether the Government have any proposals to acquire such rights as the agriculturists have in the lands which are irrigated by water from this lake, so that a continual supply of water may be guaranteed to the City of Madras, especially in view of the fact that there is constant conflict of interests between the agriculturists of Chingleput and the citizens of Madras? May I ask whether Government have any proposal for a permanent and satisfactory solution of this perpetually difficult problem ? "

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—" This question was raised some time ago and it was then pointed out that it was largely a question of finance, and that it would mean an outlay of a large sum of money to pay compensation to all these people to acquire their lands. But when that matter was on the tapis, a large deputation of ryots waited on Government and said that they had been for generations in possession of those lands and that they would take the risk of such water as may be available. This is a very difficult question. If I may make a suggestion to my hon. Friends the Member for the University and the Leader of the Opposition who are influential members of the Corporation, this is a matter to be decided in consultation with my hon. Colleague the Minister for Local Self-Government, the Corporation and the Government. And if any satisfactory solution can be arrived at by a conference, I do not think the Government would do otherwise than help it."

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MR. SAMI VENKATACHALAM CHETTI :—“Is the hon. the Law Member aware that though the Government have at present stopped the supply of water for irrigation purposes, it is practically being used by the irrigators?”

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR .—“So it has been apprehended, Sir.”

MR. S. SATYAMURTI —“May I ask whether even to-day there is a great fear in Madras of scarcity of water and that if rains hold off for five or six months more, there may be actual scarcity? May I know whether the Government have taken or propose to take any steps to conserve even the little water available primarily for the citizens of Madras and whether as a matter of fact even the small quantity of water that is now available is now going practically to waste, used neither for the purpose of consumption nor for agriculture?”

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR —“I am aware that instructions have been issued in view of the apprehensions that have been expressed both in the Corporation Chamber and elsewhere to see that water is conserved and put to its primary use.”

The RAJA OF RAMNAD :—“Under what authority vested in them can the Government stop the normal supply of water to the agriculturists without compensating them?”

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR .—“I never said that they would stop. What was said in answer to a certain statement was that the primary object was the supply of drinking water to the city.”

DR. B. S. MALLAYYA :—“May I remind the hon. the Law Member, Sir, that there is a G.O. (No. 310, dated March 1904) laying down that the supply of water to Madras is of paramount importance totally outweighing the claims of irrigation and that if the level of the water in the lake was 40 feet and below even on the 1st January, the Collector of Chingleput has to think of curtailing the area for irrigation and if the level is 38 feet on any date the supply for irrigation has to be stopped.”

The hon Sir C P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—“Yes, Sir. I bow to the knowledge of details which my hon. Friend displays. The Government Order is before me and I agree he gave the gist of it.”

MR. S. SATYAMURTI :—“May I ask the hon the Law Member whether he will take the initiative in the matter of summoning this conference, because he realizes, none better, that we the non-officials can hardly take the initiative in a matter of this kind?”

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR —“I shall consider that matter in consultation with my hon. Colleague, the Minister for Local Self-Government.”

The hon. the PRESIDENT —“As it appears to me that there are conflicting interests, the best thing is to table a cut under Irrigation or any other appropriate Demand. I shall waive want of notice and give an opportunity for the House to express its opinion upon this important question.”

MR. SAMI VENKATACHALAM CHETTI :—“Thank you, Sir.”

DR. B. S. MALLAYYA :—“In the meantime will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to put a stop to this waste of water?”

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The hon the PRESIDENT :—“ It is for this reason, viz., that the supplementary questions were taking the shape of a debate that I suggested a very convenient course for the House to adopt.”

Possibilities of the Upper Bhavani Project.

* 350 Q.—Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR : Will the hon. the Law Member and the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether a special officer has been appointed to report on the possibilities of the Upper Bhavani Project, and if so, whether the Government Order will be placed on the Council table;

(b) whether the special officer has sent his report and in any case whether the Government are prepared to publish it with a view to obtain the opinion of the people of the Coimbatore district on the report; and

(c) whether the special officer was asked to consult the leading associations or the leading persons in the Coimbatore district and whether he did so in the course of his investigation?

A.—(a) Yes. G.O. No. 1341 I., dated the 25th September 1926, is placed on the table ^a.

(b) The special officer's final report has not yet been received. The Government will consider in due course the question of publishing it.

(c) No such instructions were issued to the special officer, but he will no doubt, if he thinks necessary, consult the leading associations or persons in the district interested in the project.

Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR :—“ With reference to the second line in the Government Order, dated 25th September 1926, may I know what is meant by the Government, by the words ‘ Revenue and cognate aspects of the project ? ’ ”

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—“ Notice, Sir, I shall look into the question.”

Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR :—“ May I know whether the hon. Member is aware that the special officer appointed for this purpose takes the words ‘ cognate aspects ’ to include an enquiry and to lead to the conclusion that all the reports made by the Engineering officers including the hon. Member Mr. Arogyaswami Mudaliyar and by the Revenue Officers including Sir Charles Innes are based on wrong calculations ? ”

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—“ I will take what my hon. Friend says is correct. But it appears to me what it is hardly likely that the special officer who has been appointed to report on the possibilities of the Upper Bhavani Project on the basis of certain materials placed before him, would consider himself authorized to say that all the materials are wrong. I cannot say whether that is so; it looks unlikely. I shall take what my hon. Friend says but I do not believe it can be so.”

Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR :—“ May I know if this officer has found three months' time to be insufficient and has applied for extension of time ? ”

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The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—" Yes ; he applied for extension of time ; extension was granted and the report is, I think, ready."

Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR :—" Has the report been received since the answer was sent ? "

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—" Not yet, I am told."

Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR :—" May I ask whether this officer did not say when applying for extension of time that all the basis given by the Revenue and Public Works Department officers was wrong and that he was investigating further into the matter ? "

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—" I do not desire to contradict what my hon. Friend said. But I should like to say that he was asked to report about the possibilities of the project on the basis of those materials."

Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR :—" May I know whether the Government will drop out of consideration all those subjects if the officer has referred to them? I have not seen the report and the hon. Member says that he has not received it."

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—" My hon. Friend will excuse me when I say that his question is based on two hypotheses. I have not seen the report. With regard to my hon. Friend's apprehensions that the report might contain certain conclusions based on wrong materials, the Government will look into the matter. My hon. Friend needs no assurance from me that if the report is based on wrong materials and wrong foundations, it will not be entitled to the weight it would otherwise have."

Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR :—" May I know if the hon. Member will be pleased to issue instructions to the special officer that he may take the help of leading associations and persons in the district with regard to this matter ? "

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—" I have no doubt as the answer to clause (c) puts it, that the special officer would, if he thinks it necessary, take the opinion of leading associations. He will be made aware of the debate this morning. He will, I am sure, take note that it is the desire of a section of this House that he should consult leading associations and persons of the district interested in the matter."

Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR :—" He may or may not do it. I am asking whether the hon. Member cannot . . ."

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" The hon. Member gave a modified answer. He said he would forward this debate, if I may so call it to the special officer."

Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR :—" May I ask whether he cannot give instructions to the officer to take the advice and help of the leading men and associations in the district ? "

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—" That will be noted."

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Constitution of Districts, Divisions and Taluks

Headquarters of the Sub-Collector of Coondapoor division.

* 351 Q.—Mr. A. B. SHETTY: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) the reasons, if any, why the Sub-Collector of Coondapoor division has his headquarters station at Coondapoor; and

(b) whether Udipi is a more central place for it?

A.—(a) The reasons why Coondapoor was originally selected as the headquarters are not on record. The headquarters have now been at Coondapoor for very many years and offices and dwelling accommodation for the Sub-Collector exist there.

(b) This is a matter of opinion.

Mr. A. B. SHETTY:—“With regard to the reply (b), may I know how this can be a matter of opinion and whether Udipi is not midway between Coondapoor and Karkal which are at either end of this revenue division?”

The hon. Mr. N. E. MARJORIBANKS:—“If you look at the map, it will be seen that both these places, Coondapoor and Udipi are on the coast and almost evenly bisect the coast boundary of the division. It may therefore be argued that every one of the places is central. That is all what is meant by the answer.”

Land Revenue

Applications for remission of taxes in Guntur district.

* 352 Q.—Mr. P. ANJANEYULU: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government have received any petitions or representations from the ryots in the famine-stricken areas in the Guntur district praying for orders to remit land taxes this year, or at least to postpone collection of land revenue in those areas; and

(b) if so, what orders the Government have passed thereon?

A.—(a) Petitions have been received from ryots in the Ongole taluk of the Guntur district.

(b) The Government have issued orders postponing to the next fasli the collection of revenue amounting to Rs. 2,90,000 (approximately) in the Ongole taluk.

The Government have issued orders that claims to remission should be investigated and settled promptly and that care should be taken not to collect amounts likely to be remitted.

Mr. P. ANJANEYULU:—“May I know, Sir, whether similar conditions prevail in the other taluks of the district, such as Penukonda, Narasaraopet, etc.?”

The hon. Mr. N. E. MARJORIBANKS:—“We are informed not.”

Mr. P. ANJANEYULU:—“Have any applications been received from any of these taluks for the postponement of the collection of kist and remission?”

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The hon. Mr. N. E. MARJORIBANKS :—"If the hon. Member means the local authorities, I must ask for notice. The Government have not received any."

Mr. K. V. R. SWAMI :—"Will the hon. Member adopt the same procedure with regard to the postponement of the collection of kist in other districts also affected by famine?"

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—"The original question is only with regard to Guntur. The supplementary question is not admissible."

Failure of crops in Tinnevely district.

* 353 Q.—Mr. Chavadi K. SUBRAHMANYA PILLAI: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that there is failure of wet and dry crops in major portions of the villages in Tinnevely, Nanguneri, Kovilpatti and Sankaranayinarkoyil taluks and in parts in the villages of Ambasamudram, Tenkasi, Tiruchendur and Srivaikuntam taluks of the Tinnevely district on account of insufficiency of water-supply ;

(b) whether the local Revenue officers have inspected such lands and taken steps to remit the taxes for those lands ;

(c) whether it is a fact that the taxes are being collected from the ryots, ignoring the failure of crops on those lands in the taluks above referred to ;

(d) whether the Government have issued any instructions to the Collector, Tinnevely district, to suspend the collection of kists at least for those lands ; and

(e) whether any report has been received on the subject by the Government from the District Collector, Tinnevely, and, if so, will the Government be pleased to place the same on the Council table at its next meeting ?

A.—(a) The attention of the hon. Member is invited to the season reports for the last two months. It will be seen from these reports that the condition of certain wet and dry crops in certain parts of the Tinnevely district has not been good : but that after the recent rains prospects are improving.

(b) to (d) The Government have issued orders that throughout the Presidency all claims to remission should be investigated and settled promptly, that any proposals for the postponement of collections beyond the fasli should be formulated and submitted for sanction at the earliest possible date and that care should be taken not to collect amounts that are likely to be remitted.

(e) The Government have not received any report from the Collector.

Mr. Chavadi K. SUBRAHMANYA PILLAI :—"With reference to the answer to clause (e) of the question, may I ask the hon. the Revenue Member whether any report has been called for from the Collector of Tinnevely on the failure of crops referred to in the question ?"

The hon. Mr. N. E. MARJORIBANKS :—"No report has been called for."

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Village Establishments

Alleged memorial from the village headman, Kollangondan.

* 354 Q.—Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether the headman of the village of Kollangondan of the Srivilliputtur taluk in Ramnad district has submitted a memorial to the Government that as his village is a big one and the kist amount to be collected is a large one he is not able to deal with the collection work satisfactorily and that therefore his post may be made a honorary one and that a Revenue monigar may be appointed with the saving;

(b) whether the Collector of Ramnad has made any report on the matter and, if so, to what effect;

(c) whether any Collector and especially the Collector of Coimbatore, has complained about the difficulty of making kist collections in some big villages and requested that the revenue monigars whose services were dispensed with in 1922 may be restored at least in some villages; and

(d) whether the Government are including the restoration of some revenue monigars in the ensuing budget and, if not, why not?

A.—(a) A memorial has been received by Government.

(b) No report has been received from the Collector of Ramnad on the subject.

(c) No.

(d) The hon. Member is referred to the answer to clause (e) of the Legislative Council Question No. 338.

Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR:—“With reference to the answer to clause (b), will the Government be pleased to forward the memorial to the Collector of Ramnad for his opinion?”

The hon. Mr. N. E. MARJORIBANKS:—“The memorial being from an official was returned to him for resubmission through the proper authorities.”

Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR:—“Has it not been received again?”

The hon. Mr. N. E. MARJORIBANKS:—“Not again.”

Restoration of village officers.

* 355 Q.—Mr. B. RAMACHANDRA REDDI: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether assistant karnams are not being reinstated under the Village Officers Restoration Act, and if not, why not;

(b) whether all the menials thrown out of office after 1920 have been restored after the passing of the Village Officers Restoration Act;

(c) if not, why not;

(d) whether it is a fact that in certain proprietary villages of Nellore district, regrouping is going on now, and that triune officers are appointed in villages where both karnams and headmen hold office;

(e) if so, what are the reasons for adopting this policy; and

(f) whether the Village Officers Restoration Act has not been given effect to in the proprietary villages?

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- 4.—(a) No ; they are not administratively necessary.
 (b) No.
 (c) It is not proposed to restore the menials whose posts were abolished as being unnecessary for administrative reasons.
 (d) & (e) The Government are not aware that the facts are as stated.
 (f) On 30th July 1926 the Government issued instructions to the Board of Revenue to proceed with the restoration of village officers in both ryotwari and proprietary areas.

Mr. D. NARAYANA RAJU :—“ With reference to clause (a), may I know whether the hon. the Revenue Member is aware that with the creation of fresh departments, additional work is thrown on the karnams and, if so, how is it that assistant karnams are now not found necessary ? Evidently they were found necessary before.”

The hon. Mr. N. E. MARJORIBANKS :—“ The answer, Sir, is one to a question as to whether assistant karnams are being reinstated under the Restoration Act and it was only meant as a general one. If there are any particular cases in which the work of the village karnam is found to be too heavy, of course the question of appointing an assistant karnam will receive consideration.”

Mr. D. NARAYANA RAJU :—“ I am also asking generally, Sir. If the assistant karnams are not now found necessary am I to understand that the business of the karnams has been on the decrease in any way ? ”

The hon. Mr. N. E. MARJORIBANKS :—“ There would be a decrease in the cases, where villages which were grouped have been again divided. In such cases two officers are now placed where there was only one before.”

Mr. B. RAMACHANDRA REDDI :—“ May I know whether the question of providing assistant karnams has been considered when the Village Officers Restoration Act was under consideration in this House ? ”

The hon. Mr. N. E. MARJORIBANKS :—“ Yes, Sir, it was.”

Mr. B. RAMACHANDRA REDDI :—“ What was the conclusion that was come to.”

The hon. Mr. N. E. MARJORIBANKS :—“ The conclusion was that they should not be restored.”

Mr. P. SIVA RAO :—“ May I know whether the assistant karnams are proposed to be reinstated.”

The hon. Mr. N. E. MARJORIBANKS :—“ I have already replied, generally, in the negative.”

Factories

Opening of sandalwood factory.

* 356 Q.—Mr. C. N. MUTHURANGA MUDALIYAR : Will the hon. the Home Member and the hon. the Minister for Development be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government are aware of the profits the manufacturers of sandalwood oil itself are making ; and

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(b) whether the Government are contemplating the opening of a sandalwood oil factory to make oil from the sandalwood produced in the British territory in the Madras Presidency?

A.—(a) & (b) No.

Mr. C. N. MUTHURANGA MUDALIYAR :—" Will the Government make an investigation into the matter ? "

The hon. Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—" I do not know what my hon. Friend exactly wants and the lines on which he wants the Government to enquire and ascertain the facts."

Mr. C. N. MUTHURANGA MUDALIYAR :—" Does not the Minister consider that industries must be started and encouraged by the Government ? "

The hon. Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—" I suppose my hon. Friend is aware that there is a sandalwood factory at Kuppam and if the Government were to start any factory in competition with the private factory, it will ruin the private concern."

Mr. K. V. R. SWAMI :—" Does the factory referred to, consume and use all the sandalwood available in the Presidency ? "

The hon. Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—" I presume it depends upon the capacity of the concern to make purchases and upon the extent to which the factory can use the available sandalwood."

Mr. K. V. R. SWAMI :—" In the answer given the other day it was stated that sandalwood is being taken away. . . ."

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" The hon. Member is not entitled to base a question on the answer given the other day."

Mr. K. V. R. SWAMI :—" Is the hon. the Minister aware that a large quantity of the sandalwood produced in this Presidency is exported to other countries ? "

The hon. Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—" I hope there is much scope for a larger quantity to be used in this province."

Mr. K. V. R. SWAMI :—" So far as the remaining sandalwood is concerned, will the hon. the Minister see that another factory is started to make use of it ? "

The hon. Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—" I think we will be injuring private enterprise if we are to run another factory."

Mr. T. ADINARAYANA CHETTIYAR :—" Is it not a fact that a quantity of Madras sandalwood annually goes to Mysore ? "

The hon. Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—" When it is sold, I suppose some persons come and purchase it."

Mr. T. ADINARAYANA CHETTIYAR :—" Does it not follow therefore that the Mysore Government find it profitable to import Madras sandalwood in addition to their own, and make oil from it ? "

The hon. Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—" I do not know."

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Mr. P. SIVA RAO :—“Is the hon. Minister aware that the Mysore Government are making huge profits over this business and will he be pleased to consider the desirability of following the example of the Mysore Government?”

The hon. Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—“I would rather like to see that private people start concerns and run them instead of the Government running them, perhaps at a larger expenditure.”

Mr. P. SIVA RAO :—“Are not the Government aware that the Mysore Government are deriving much profit?”

The hon. Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—“I take it, Sir, that the point is whether this particular industry is or is not a commercially feasible concern. The point has been established beyond doubt and there is already a private concern which is carrying on the trade and it is possible that it may develop its business; I deprecate any effort of the Government to run down existing institutions.”

Mr. ABDUL HAMID KHAN :—“May I know what steps the Government are taking to encourage this industry and make it popular among the people?”

The hon. Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—“I do not think any further effort on the part of the Government is necessary because the industry is already there and people are aware of it.”

The RAJA OF RAMNAD :—“May I ask the hon. the Minister if private concerns should undertake such enterprises where the necessity is for Government continuing their industries department?”

The hon. Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—“Not to compete with private enterprise, but to see and find out new industries and start them and to encourage others.”

Rao Bahadur C. S. RATNASABAPATI MUDALIYAR :—“In view of the fact that sandalwood has to be purchased from the Government, will it not be cheaper for the Government themselves to run a factory?”

The hon. Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—“I am not aware of that fact.”

Mr. C. GOPALA MENON :—“It is true that there is a private concern. But considering the undeveloped nature of this industry will the Government be prepared to take it up and show to the people of this Presidency the different aspects of development of sandalwood industry?”

The hon. Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—“I have no doubt that the hon. Member will be glad to know that this particular matter is being considered by the Government.”

Mr. L. K. TULASIRAM :—“Considering the fact that the sandalwood oil extracted at Kuppam is not one-thousandth part of the industry and seeing that large quantities of sandalwood are being exported to France, will the Government be pleased to establish two or three demonstration factories in important centres of the Presidency?”

The hon. Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—“I do not know, Sir, if it is a practical suggestion.”

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Forests

Supply of timber from the Nallamalais in Kurnool.

* 357 Q.—MR. G. HARISARVOTTAMA RAO: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state what the results of operation referred to in the Administration Report, 1924-25, page 121 (at line 26), in the Nallamalais of Kurnool to supply the requirements of the surrounding country in the matter of timber have been?

A.—In July 1925 the Government approved of certain schemes drawn up by the Conservator of Forests, II Circle, for the supply of timber and agricultural implements in the Kurnool district. The majority of coupes referred to in the Conservator's proposals are at present being worked. In some cases, however, it has been necessary to curtail the operations for want of demand. The Government understand that the timber cut in these operations appears to satisfy the demands of the rural population and that there have been no complaints.

To meet the demand for timber of larger size, regular fellings are in progress in the South Kurnool Forest division and the timber is sold at periodical auctions at Diguvametta.

MR. G. HARISARVOTTAMA RAO:—"May I ask the hon. Home Member whether it is a fact that the trees felled were dead, dying and deformed and do not give the kind of timber required and therefore it is that there is want of demand as is stated in the answer?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—"We have no information, Sir."

MR. G. HARISARVOTTAMA RAO:—"May I ask the hon. Member whether he is aware that that statement is made in the Administration Report for the year 1925-26?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—"I do not remember; I will look into it."

MR. G. HARISARVOTTAMA RAO:—"I wish he did. May I ask the hon. the Home Member whether he is prepared to start more regular fellings in areas other than South Kurnool forests for the purpose of getting larger size of timber?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—"Yes, Sir. I am prepared to consider the question."

Levy of grazing fees.

* 358 Q.—MR. G. HARISARVOTTAMA RAO: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state--

(a) whether the consideration of certain general questions connected with the levy of grazing fees mentioned at page 7 in line 23 from the bottom in G.O. No. 244, Development, dated 13th February 1925, is now complete and, if so, what the decision has been;

(b) whether now the Government are prepared to lower the grazing fee from annas 8 to annas 3;

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(c) what portion of the 360 square miles of forest still closed to grazing mentioned in paragraph 5 of the letter of the Chief Conservator of Forests on page 2 of the Government Order referred to in paragraph (a) of this question has been thrown open since the issue of the said Government Order ;

(d) whether it is not a fact that local officials have interpreted local cattle mentioned in the said Government Order to be cattle within a range only of five miles from the forest ;

(e) whether the Government have issued instructions to the authorities concerned to carry out their desire that all cattle licensed to graze in one range should be permitted to enter the adjoining range to a distance of half a mile without being considered to have trespassed ;

(f) whether the Government have received the scheme of the Conservator (referred to in the said Government Order) which he proposed to introduce for the supply of agricultural implements ; if so, what action thereupon has been taken ;

(g) whether they have received the ' further report ' of the Chief Conservator which the Government awaited in the said Government Order ; if they have received, what action has been taken ;

(h) what action has since been taken in setting back reserve boundaries as adumbrated by the Chief Conservator in the said Government Order and approved by the Government ;

(i) whether in regard to the reduction of seigniorage fees for manure leaves the Government have since had any case which appeared to demand special treatment as adumbrated on page 8 of the said Government Order ; if they had such a case or cases, what reductions they have granted ; and

(j) whether the consideration of the question of standardization of compounding fees is complete ; if so, what the result of such consideration has been ?

A.—(a) Yes. The Government have since decided to allow grazing in the whole range on a single permit and that it is essential to continue the restrictions based on the possibility of forests.

(b) The question is still under consideration.

(c) The entire forest area in the district, except felled coupes under regeneration, have been thrown open to grazing.

(d) No. Local cattle have been taken to mean the cattle of the village or villages within the limits of which the reserve is situated or which it adjoins.

(e) The hon. Member's attention is invited to paragraph 5 of G.O. No. 244, Development, dated 13th February 1925.

(f) The scheme has been received and it has been approved.

(g) The report has been received. The policy of Government is that reserves which need not be retained by the Forest Department should be managed by panchayats. In cases in which there is an urgent demand for extension of cultivation, Government are prepared to consider the question of disafforestation if the needs of the community for pasture, firewood and agricultural implements have been satisfied.

(h) The Government understand that the Chief Conservator has already invited the attention of the Conservator and the District Forest Officers concerned to the urgent need for setting right matters in this direction.

(i) No such case has been brought to the notice of the Government :

(j) The question is still under consideration.

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Mr. G. HARISARVOTTAMA RAO :—“ With regard to clause (a), I find that it is stated that ‘the Government have since decided to allow grazing in the whole range on a single permit and that it is essential to continue the restrictions based on the possibility of forests’ I desire to know what exactly it means. Are there any executive restrictions being placed on the single permit system that is conceded in this answer? ”

The hon. Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—“ No, Sir.”

Mr. K. SARABHA REDDI :—“ With regard to the answer to clause (a), Sir, I want to know whether ‘whole range’ means the whole of a forest district or only a portion of a forest district. It is said ‘to allow grazing in the whole range’; but that is not what is really taking place. Grazing is allowed not only in one range, but in other ranges also, or at least in all the ranges round the range. I wish to know what is meant by ‘whole range.’ ”

The hon. Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—“ By ‘whole range’ it is meant only portions of the district.”

Mr. T. ADINARAYANA CHETTIYAR :—“ May I ask the hon. Member to inform a layman what he means by the phrase ‘possibility of forests.’ ”

Mr. H. TIREMAN :—“ I have been asked by the hon. the Home Member to explain the words ‘possibility of forests.’ It is a technical expression and it signifies the maximum number of cattle generally per acre which can graze in a certain forest area without doing any harm to that area.”

Mr. T. ADINARAYANA CHETTIYAR :—“ May I ask the hon. the Home Member or his spokesman . . . ”

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—“ The hon. Member may put the question to the hon. the Home Member or if the latter wants it, he may put the question to the Chief Conservator.”

Mr. T. ADINARAYANA CHETTIYAR :—“ I thought I might save trouble by putting the question direct to the Chief Conservator. May I ask on what basis the possibility is arrived at, Sir? ”

Mr. H. TIREMAN :—“ It is merely an estimate, taking into consideration the character of the grazing and the grass.”

Mr. T. ADINARAYANA CHETTIYAR :—“ So, that after all is not so very technical. As regards the answer to clause (g), Sir, may I know whether the report will be laid on the table of the House? ”

The hon. Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—“ I will consider the suggestion.”

Mr. G. HARISARVOTTAMA RAO :—“ With reference to the answer to clause (b), Sir, may I know when the ‘consideration’ is likely to be finished? ”

The hon. Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—“ Say in a month or two.”

Mr. G. HARISARVOTTAMA RAO :—“ With regard to the answer to clause (d), may I ask the hon. Member whether it implies that sometimes the radius is not even five miles? ”

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The hon. Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—" I want notice of the question, Sir."

Mr. G. HARISARVOTTAMA RAO :—" With reference to the answer to (e), I was referring exactly to the Government Order. I intended to ask whether the hon Member's attention had been drawn to the fact that it is not carried out in practice, and whether the hon. Member had issued—a Government Order is always there and it is sent in due course—any instructions definitely from his office to the officers concerned that this should be attended to."

The hon. Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—" I think the instructions are generally issued by the office of the Chief Conservator of Forests "

Mr. K. SARABHA REDDI :—" My doubt has not yet been cleared, Sir. In the past, this practice of allowing, on single permit system, cattle to graze in more than one range was not in vogue. That was felt a great grievance "

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" What is the supplemental question of the hon. Member ? "

Mr. K. SARABHA REDDI :—" I wish to know what Government mean by ' whole range ' whether they mean by it whole of a forest district or only a portion of it. "

The hon the PRESIDENT :—" It has already been answered. "

Mr. G. HARISARVOTTAMA RAO :—" In regard to the answer to clause (g), I desire to ask whether the hon. the Home Member is prepared or is not prepared to disafforest for the purpose of pasture, firewood and agricultural implements, if that were necessary in any area ? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—" The answer is given there, Sir. The policy of the Government is stated in the answer. "

Mr G. HARISARVOTTAMA RAO :—" The policy of the Government is stated in these terms ' that reserves which need not be retained by the Forest department should be managed by panchayats. ' Before the formation of the panchayats, is there nothing that the ryots can get out of this concession ? I am asking whether, if the panchayats are not formed, the Government will be prepared to disafforest, for purposes of pasture, firewood or agricultural implements "

The hon. Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—" If any specific instance is brought to my notice, I shall consider the matter. "

Mr. G. HARISARVOTTAMA RAO :—" With reference to the answer to clause (h), Sir, ' the Government understand that the Chief Conservator has already invited the attention of the Conservator and the District Forest Officers concerned to the urgent need for setting right matters in this direction ', may I know, if boundary lines are set back there is no need for disafforestation of that portion of the forest ? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—" I want notice of the question, Sir."

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Education

Opening of IV and V forms in the schools of Rayachoti.

* 359 Q.—Mr. K. ABDUL HYE SAHIB: Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Muhammadan public of Rayachoti, Cuddapah district, have requested the Government several times to open IV and V forms in the schools of Rayachoti; and

(b) what action the Government have taken in this matter?

A.—(a) & (b) In September 1926, the President, District Board, Cuddapah, applied for the sanction of the Government to open the IV form in the Rayachoti Board Middle School and forwarded a mahazar from the residents of Rayachoti with the application. The application was transferred to the Director of Public Instruction for disposal with the mahazar, with reference to rule 54 of the Educational Rules, the sanction of Government not being required.

Mr. ABDUL HAMID KHAN :—“ Mr. President, Sir, in answer to clause (a), the Government do not say whether they have received any application from the people of that place direct. They only say that they received one from the President, District Board of Cuddapah. Will the hon. the Minister say whether he received any application from the people ? ”

The hon. Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN :—“ The answer is that the Government have received an application from the President, District Board. That application was received with the mahazar of the people. ”

Mr. ABDUL HAMID KHAN :—“ Does it mean, Sir, that they did not receive anything direct from the people ? ”

The hon. Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN :—“ As far as I am aware, the application came only through the President of the District Board. ”

Rao Bahadur C. S. RATNASABAPATI MUDALIYAR :—“ May I know whether it is a board school or a school under private management ? ”

The hon. Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN :—“ It is a board school. ”

Rao Bahadur C. S. RATNASABAPATI MUDALIYAR :—“ Has it applied for a grant ? ”

The hon. Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN :—“ I think it is being worked under the net cost system. ”

Mr. ABDUL HAMID KHAN :—“ Will the hon. the Minister kindly state if under rule 54 of the Educational Rules, the sanction of Government was not required, why the President of the District Board forwarded the application to the Government ? ”

The hon. Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN :—“ I cannot give the reason why the President of the District Board acted in that way. ”

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Local Boards

Need of a bridge over the Yerra-kalva near Anantapalli.

* 360 Q.—Mr. D. NARAYANA RAJU: Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the pressing need of a bridge over Yerra-kalva on the Grand trunk road near Anantapalli, West Godavari district;

(b) whether there are any proposals and estimates for the construction of the same;

(c) if so, whether the Government have sanctioned those proposals and estimates; and

(d) whether the Government intend to bear the whole cost of it?

A.—(a) In his annual inspection notes on the condition of the trunk roads in the Kistna district the Superintending Engineer has pointed out the need for bridging the Yerra-kalva.

(b) & (c) No.

(d) The bridge being on a trunk road the cost of it, if built, will ordinarily be borne by the Government.

Mr. D. NARAYANA RAJU:—"May I know if any action is going to be taken in pursuance of the inspection notes of the Superintending Engineer?"

The hon. Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"We have not yet got a report from the Superintending Engineer."

Mr. D. NARAYANA RAJU:—"In the answer it is stated that in the inspection notes of the Superintending Engineer the need is pointed out. May I know if Government will take any action thereon?"

The hon. Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"If there is an application from the District Board, the Government will consider the matter. In the absence of the application, the Government cannot do anything."

Mr. D. NARAYANA RAJU:—"If there is no application from the District Board, the inspection report will not be of any good."

The hon. Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"The inspection notes will help the Government in considering the application."

Mr. D. NARAYANA RAJU:—"In the absence of any application from the District Board, am I to understand that the inspection notes are to be treated as a scrap of paper and that no action will be taken in pursuance of those inspection notes?"

The hon. Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"The Government always wait for the District Board to send in their recommendations."

Mr. D. NARAYANA RAJU:—"Except waiting for the District Board to take the initiative, am I to understand that the Government do not propose to take any action on the inspection notes of the Superintending Engineer?"

The hon. Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"Yes; because the District Board Engineer has got to make his own remarks on the Superintending Engineer's report."

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Mr. D. NARAYANA RAJU :—" In that case, that is if Government are not going to take any action on the inspection notes, what is the good of asking the Superintending Engineer to inspect all these works ? "

The hon. Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN :—" Because the President, District Board, may be aware of the defect in the roads under the control of the Board. "

Municipal Councils

Constitution of Udipi town into a municipality.

* 361 Q.—Mr. A. B. SHETTY : Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Local Self-Government be pleased to state what action the Government have taken on the proposal to constitute a municipality for the town of Udipi in South Kanara ?

A.—The attention of the hon. Member is invited to the answer given to question No. 72 on 26th January last.

Mr. A. B. SHETTY :—" May I know, Sir, how long the report of the Inspector of Municipal Councils and Local Boards has been under consideration and what the difficulty is in arriving at a decision ? "

The hon. Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN :—" There is no difficulty about it. "

Rao Bahadur C. S. RATNASABAPATI MUDALIYAR :—" May I know, Sir, if Udipi is a Union Board ? "

The hon. Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN :—" No. "

Excise

Action taken on the resolution regarding " Prohibition within twenty years. "

* 362 Q.—Mr. B. RAMACHANDRA REDDI : Will the hon. the Minister for Public Health be pleased to state—

(a) whether any action has been taken by the Government on the resolution of this Council in respect of " Prohibition within twenty years " ; and

(b) what the policy of the hon. the Minister in charge of Excise regarding this question is ?

A.—(a) The attention of the hon. Member is invited to G.O. No 1576, Revenue, dated 17th September 1926, which has been placed on the Editors' Table.

(b) Until the Government have received the report which the Finance Committee has in paragraph 9 of that Government Order (G.O. No. 1576, Revenue, dated 17th September 1926) been asked to submit, the Government propose to follow the policy laid down in that Government Order except that they propose at an early date to examine the possibility of making and, if possible, to make certain further experiments in the prohibition of the sale of liquor

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Mr. B. RAMACHANDRA REDDI :—" May I know, Sir, with reference to the answer to clause (b), when the report from the Finance Committee is expected ? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR :—" It has not yet been received. We have sent a reminder."

Mr. P. C. VENKATAPATI RAJU :—" With reference to the answer to clause (b), has the Government any proposals with regard to the making up of the revenue either by retrenchment or by taxation ? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR :—" The Finance Committee is the proper authority to report."

Mr. P. C. VENKATAPATI RAJU :—" Have any proposals been placed before the Finance Committee to serve as a basis for discussion with regard to the making up of the revenue either by retrenchment or by taxation ? "

The hon. Mr. T. E. MOIR :—" I cannot do anything other than refer it to the Finance Committee who have the obligation of formulating and recommending any new proposals to meet the deficiency."

Mr. P. C. VENKATAPATI RAJU :—" May I request the hon. the Finance Member to place before the Finance Committee any proposals to serve as the basis for the discussion in order to see whether retrenchment or new taxation is possible or not ? "

The hon. Mr. T. E. MOIR :—" I am sure that the Finance Committee would be very glad to receive suggestions on this subject from any quarter of the House."

Mr. S. SATYAMURTI :—" In view of the fact that the answer was despatched to your office on the 8th January 1927 and . . . "

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" That is the date on which the question was sent from my office to the Secretariat concerned."

Mr. S. SATYAMURTI :—" There used to be a third date, Sir. I do not know what happened to it."

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" It is not now supplied. However, after ascertaining the wishes of the parties in regard to this, I shall consider the necessity of putting the date in."

Mr. S. SATYAMURTI :—" In view of the fact that the answer must have been received in your office some time before the hon. the Excise Minister's statement was made on the floor of this House yesterday, may I ask, Sir, whether the answer to clause (b) of this question, which states that they are still going to make certain further experiments in prohibition, is to be understood to be qualified, to the extent to which it is, by the statement of policy made by the hon. the Minister last afternoon in answer to a token motion on the Excise demand ? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR :—" My answer was made yesterday, Sir, and hon. Members are aware of it."

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Mr. S. SATYAMURTI :—“ May I ask, Sir, for a little elucidation? It is because I am aware of the answer that I am asking this : that since the answer is made on the floor of this House subsequent to that statement, whether the statement of policy made by him yesterday qualifies to the extent to which it does, the answer to clause (b) of this question.”

The hon. Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR :—“ Certainly, Sir.”

Mr. K. R. KARANT :—“ Will the hon. the Minister also consider the possibility of fixing a reasonable time-limit? ”

The hon. Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR :—“ I should like to have notice of the question, Sir, and then I shall consider.”

Mr. B. RAMACHANDRA REDDI :—“ In the answer to clause (b) reference is made to certain further experiments in the prohibition of the sale of liquor. Will the hon. the Minister be pleased to give me an idea of the further experiments that are going to be made? ”

The hon. Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR :—“ I am afraid I cannot do so now, Sir.”

Dr. B. S. MALLAYYA :—“ Will the hon. the Minister for Public Health be pleased to state whether he is prepared to withdraw the Government Order prohibiting village officers lecturing on the evils of drink in the mufassal? ”

The hon. Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR :—“ I said yesterday that I am going to consider the matter.”

Dr. B. S. MALLAYYA :—“ I want to know whether he is going to withdraw the Government Order? ”

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—“ He is considering.”

Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—“ May I enquire whether in what areas the further experiments for the prohibition of the sale of liquor have been made or are going to be made? ”

The hon. Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR :—“ I said yesterday and on a previous occasion that a considerable amount of embarrassment will be caused if I give details at the present moment.”

Mr. A. KALESWARA RAO :—“ May I know whether the hon. the Minister has made up his mind as to the first step to be taken this year towards prohibition? ”

The hon. Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR :—“ That will require consideration, Sir.”

Mr. A. KALESWARA RAO :—“ May I know also whether he has any idea of the probable number of years during which prohibition will be a matter of reality in this Presidency? ”

Mr. K. MADHAVAN NAYAR :—“ May I know the result of the consideration of the hon. the Excise Minister during the last four months? ”

Mr. P. BHAKTAVATSULU NAYUDU :—“ Does it follow from the answer that no further experiments are going to be made although it is so stated in the answer? ”

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Medical Administration

Supply of free quarters and surgical instruments to officers in charge of rural dispensaries.

* 363 Q —Dr. B. S. MALLAYYA : Will the hon. the Minister for Public Health be pleased to state whether the Government will be pleased to recommend to the local bodies to supply free quarters and surgical instruments to the officers in charge of the rural dispensaries and raise the remuneration of these officers in order to induce more of them to settle in the mufassal ?

A.—The Government do not consider it necessary to recommend to local boards that free quarters should be given to all medical practitioners in charge of rural dispensaries. They have already instructed the boards to equip the dispensaries with the necessary surgical instruments

The Government are unable to raise the ratio of subsidy payable to the medical practitioners from Provincial Funds. They have, however, no objection to the local boards themselves sanctioning an additional subsidy from their own funds if in any case they consider that a qualified man cannot be secured for the subsidy promised by the Government

Dr. B. S. MALLAYYA :—" Has the hon. the Minister satisfied himself that these rural dispensaries are doing useful and satisfactory work ? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR :—" I have seen many of them and several of them are doing satisfactory work."

Dr. B. S. MALLAYYA :—" Is the hon. the Minister aware that the cost of these dispensaries is one-sixth of the permanent dispensaries ? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR :—" They certainly cost less than permanent dispensaries. I cannot say whether it is one-sixth."

Dr. B. S. MALLAYYA :—" May I ask the hon. the Minister whether he is prepared to replace them by rural dispensaries if they are cheap and efficient ? "

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" That is more the concern of the local bodies."

Dr. B. S. MALLAYYA :—" But, I should like to ask the hon. the Minister, if they are doing useful work why not help them a little and make them more popular ? You have sanctioned 367 of them, but one-third still remain to be opened because medical officers cannot be got, and if the dispensaries are cheap and are doing useful work, why not make them more efficient by providing them with sufficient medical instruments and drugs ? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR :—" The idea of the scheme is to get the local boards to participate in the scheme, so that the Government can find only a part of the expenditure."

Dr. B. S. MALLAYYA :—" If the Government is prepared to meet half the cost, the district boards will be ready to bring up the other half."

The hon. Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR :—" That is the scheme."

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Dr. B. S. MALLAYYA :—“ If the Government make a move, others will come and join them. I should like to know whether the Government have received complaints from these subsidized medical officers saying that the midwives supplied are not properly paid and are dissatisfied and that they are not provided with instruments. What is the use of having medical officers without . . . ”

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—“ The hon. Member will stop with the supplementary question.”

The hon. Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR :—“ Government have received no complaints from local boards in regard to the cost of providing midwives.”

Dr. B. S. MALLAYYA :—“ Complaints were ventilated in the papers. I should like to know whether the hon. the Minister has read any of them.”

The hon. Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR :—“ I have seen some, Sir.”

Dr. B. S. MALLAYYA :—“ I am glad that the Minister admits that he has seen. When there are complaints, Sir, will it be convenient for the Minister to meet some of them at least ? ”

The hon. Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR :—“ I should like to have specific suggestions.”

Rao Bahadur K. SITARAMA REDDIYAR :—“ Government in their answer have stated that they are unable to raise the ratio of subsidy. Am I to take it that they are not going to reconsider the question next year, in view of the fact that we are getting some money ? ”

The hon. Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR :—“ It may be, Sir, that we may have to reconsider the whole question, when we come to a decision about the question of taking over taluk headquarter hospitals. It may be very likely that the whole thing may require readjustment.”

Mr. P. L. MOORE :—“ May I ask the hon. the Minister whether it was not the intention of the scheme that these officers should be encouraged to build up private practice and whether that hope is materializing ? ”

The hon. Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR :—“ From my own personal experience, I can say that in several places the medical officers have established private practice and that they are satisfied.”

Mr. D. THOMAS :—“ It is stated in the answer that the Government have issued instructions to the local boards to equip the dispensaries with the necessary surgical instruments. May I know when these instructions were issued and whether these instructions have been carried out ? ”

The hon. Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR :—“ That is a part of the original Government Order.”

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Public Health

Alleged scarcity of drinking water in Salem district.

* 364 Q.—Rao Sahib S. ELLAPPA CHETTIYAR : Will the hon. the Minister for Public Health be pleased to state—

(a) whether he is aware of the fact that scarcity of drinking water is keenly felt in the district of Salem, especially in the taluks of Tiruchengode, Rasipur and Hosur ;

(b) whether he is aware of the fact that 3,374 cases of death in the year 1924-25 and 2,870 cases in 1925-26 have occurred on account of cholera in the district of Salem ;

(c) the number of Adi-Dravida villages in Salem district that have been provided with protected water-supply and how many have not been provided ;

(d) the amount spent by the Salem District Board towards protected water-supply in the years 1925-26 and 1926-27 ;

(e) the amount of Government grant for these two years for this purpose ; and

(f) whether any adequate provision will be made in the budget for 1927-28 to relieve the distress of the people of the Salem district caused by the scarcity of drinking water ?

A.—(a) The Government have been informed that there is scarcity of drinking water in the Salem district especially in the southern taluks ;

(b) Yes.

(c) The President, District Board, Salem, reports that wells were dug in 96 Adi-Dravida villages during 1925-26 and that 137 wells have been sanctioned in 1926-27. He states that requests for the provision of wells in addition to these have been received from 338 Adi-Dravida villages, that estimates for 100 wells in these 338 villages have been sanctioned and that estimates amounting to Rs. 30,812 for 61 wells have been prepared and await sanction and estimates for 177 wells are under preparation. He also states that the district board has sanctioned Rs. 50,000 for the construction of wells during 1927-28. The President has no information regarding the exact number of Adi-Dravida villages in which there is no protected water-supply.

(d) A sum of Rs. 16,145 was spent by the District Board during 1925-26 in addition to the Government grant of Rs. 16,116. It is expected that Rs. 50,836 from the funds of the District Board and Rs. 8,634 from Government grants will be spent in the current year.

(e) A grant of Rs. 20,000 was sanctioned in 1925-26 for the improvement of the water-supply in the rural areas of the district out of which the District Board spent Rs. 16,116 during the year. The balance of Rs. 3,884 has been reallocated in the current year. An additional grant of Rs. 4,750 has also been sanctioned this year.

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(f) A lump sum of Rs. 2.50 lakhs has been included in the Civil Budget Estimate for 1927-28 for grants for the improvement of water-supply in the rural areas throughout the Presidency. If the Legislative Council sanctions the grant, the claims of the Salem district will be considered at the time of its distribution.

Mr. T. ADINARAYANA CHETTIYAR :—" In the answer to clause (a) that the Government have been informed that there is scarcity of drinking water in the Salem district, especially in the southern taluks, are the Government aware that the scarcity has been even greater in the northern taluks ? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR :—" It is possible."

Mr. T. ADINARAYANA CHETTIYAR :—" Are the Government aware that in the town of Hosur water for drinking purposes is very scarce and that water is sold at Re. 1 per pot ? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR :—" I am not aware of it."

Mr. T. ADINARAYANA CHETTIYAR :—" Is it a fact that the Collector who is doing jamabandi work in the northern parts has not sent a report to the Board or to Government about the scarcity of water in this area ? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR :—" I believe that reports have been received."

Mr. T. ADINARAYANA CHETTIYAR :—" Do Government propose to do anything in the matter to alleviate the hard condition ? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR :—" When Government are placed in possession of facts, they will consider."

Mr. T. ADINARAYANA CHETTIYAR :—" With regard to the Adi-Dravida wells, are the Government aware that even as regards wells that are already sunk by the people, the District Board of which the questioner, Mr. Ellappa Chettiyar is the Vice-President, grudged lending money for deepening the wells in this area of scarcity ? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR :—" I am not aware of it."

UNSTARRED QUESTIONS

Education

Alleged complaints against the District Educational Officer, Chingleput.

365 Q.—Mr. C. N. MUTHURANGA MUDALIYAR : Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that the District Educational Officer, Chingleput, has instructed the Headmaster, Poonamallee Board High School, to compel a student of the school final class to leave the school in the beginning of this month because, he being 21 years old, cannot but be sent up for the public examination, although inefficient; and

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- (f) The total expenditure was in excess of the fee income in all schools in the year 1925-26.
- (g) 466 schools for boys, under local bodies and private management and 45 for girls received grants from provincial funds in 1925-26.
- (h) The hon. Member is referred to the subsidiary tables appended to Volume II of the Report on Public Instruction in the Madras Presidency for 1925-26.

Co-operative Societies

Work done by Deputy Registrars of Co-operative Societies.

368 Q.—Mr. T. ADINARAYANA CHETTIYAR: Will the hon. the Minister for Development be pleased to state with reference to the answer to question No. 22 (24) regarding the work done by Deputy Registrars of Co-operative Societies answered on 24th January 1927—

- (a) whether the information called for has been received; and
- (b) whether the same will be placed on the table of this House?

A.—(a) & (b) The information was placed on the table on 3rd March 1927.

Industries

Investment on commercial undertakings by Government.

369 Q.—Mr. K. V. R. SWAMI: Will the hon. the Minister for Development, the hon. the Minister for Public Health and the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

- (a) what is the total investment made on commercial undertakings by the Government;
- (b) what profits they derive from such investments;
- (c) what are the several undertakings;
- (d) what is the amount invested in respect of each; and
- (e) what is the net profit or loss with regard to each?

A.—(a) to (e) The attention of the hon. Member is invited to the balance sheets and profit and loss statements appended to the Civil Budget Estimates.

II

MOTIONS ON THE BUDGET FOR 1927-28—*cont.*

DEMAND IV—FOREST—*cont.*

[*Note.*—An asterisk (*) at the commencement of a speech indicates revision by the Member.]

* The hon. the PRESIDENT:—"There is a feeling on the part of some 12 Members of the Council that the time-limit is too short. I wish to know ^{noon.} again whether the time limit should be only 5 minutes or should be fixed at 10 minutes. I wish to know the wishes of the leaders of parties; or, the deputy leaders may speak on behalf of their parties."

* Mr. S. SATYAMURTI:—"As far as I can ascertain on the spur of the moment, the Congress party will be quite satisfied with 5 minutes, Sir."

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Diwan Bahadur M. KRISHNAN NAYAR :—" Generally, it may be fixed at 5 minutes, Sir, but in special circumstances some more time may be allowed.

" Sir, I support my hon. Friend Mr. Satyamurti's motion^a which is to discuss the uneconomic administration of the department. I submit, Sir, that the administration is certainly very uneconomic and I wish to bring to the notice of my hon. Friend the Home Member and the Council, as an illustration, only one case of the uneconomic administration of the forests by the department: that illustration is this, namely, the uneconomic administration of the Chenat Nayar forests in the district of Malabar. Now the exploitation scheme of the Chenat Nayar forests began in September 1919 and we have the account of the working of this scheme from September 1919 to 31st March 1922. I am taking the figures from the published records of the Forest Department. The accounts show that up to 31st March 1922 there was a net loss of Rs. 1,15,051. I leave out the annas and pies. That was the case up to 31st March 1922. Before I proceed to the loss incurred in the next year, I wish to draw the attention of the Council to this circumstance. Originally, the whole basis for this exploitation was the account submitted to the Government by Mr. Martin who stated that quantity of timber available per acre for exploitation in this forest was about 40 tons. Now it is found that this quantity is not available in the forest. I refer to paragraph 19 of the report by the Assistant Accounts Officer Mr. George. He says that there are no working plans for these forests—it is really very curious—and as the utility of the forest scheme is largely dependant on the estimates of timber available in the forest, no useful scheme can at present be worked out. I understand that in the present working, the quantity of timber available has been considerably below 40 tons per acre given in Mr. Martin's report of 1921. Going to the account for the next year, that is 1922-23, this is what we find. They sold in the year 71 thousand tons and odd cubic feet of timber. Now the rate at which this quantity was worked was 2·81 rupees that is nearly Rs. 3 per cubic foot. That is the working cost but the amount realised by sale per cubic foot was 1·7 or roughly Rs. 1½. So that practically on this quantity of 75 thousand tons there was a loss of Rs. 1½ per cubic foot, and the total loss on the 71 thousand would come to about a lakh of rupees. That was up to the end of 1922-23. Then if we go to the next year, that is 1923-24, what the figures tell us is this. Since the last balance sheet, that is up to 31st March 1923—not a small figure again—the loss was Rs. 1,29,610. Then if we proceed to the next year what we find is this. Up to 31st March 1925, the net loss—always it is a question of loss—in working for that year was again another big figure, that is, Rs. 1,23,189. So that the loss that is incurred from year to year comes on an average to more than one and a quarter lakh. This scheme has been in existence for the last seven years and odd and I understand that the total quantity of timber available for exploitation has been already reduced by half."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" The hon. Member's time limit has been exceeded."

* Mr. G. HARISARVOTTAMA RAO :—" Mr. President, Sir, I am sorry I am left with five minutes on my hands but I shall make the best of it. If I had sufficient time, I would have shown from Government records themselves how badly the Forest Department is administered and how uneconomically,

^a To reduce the allotment of Rs. 1,00,400 for General Direction by Rs. 100.

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with reference to the village ryot. The villager is supposed now to be my voter, to be the voter that determines the Ministers here, to be the voter who determines those who run this Government and still he is at the mercy of the forest guard or peon. Even as early as 1865, the Board of Revenue protested against the Forest Act being extended to this Presidency and they definitely put down that it would be in the power of the pettiest peon of the department to harass the people at his own pleasure. That is happening to-day everywhere and unless the Forest department and the Member in charge of the Forest department are prepared to make some amends for the great trouble that the ryots are being put to, by the powers vested in these peons, the forest administration does not deserve to exist at all. Then, it was suggested that the man arrested should be taken immediately to the Magistrate. Now it is enough if he is taken to the police station. Not only is the man arrested but his property is taken, all his carts, bulls, ropes, implements are taken over and the ryot is put to the enormous trouble of wasting his resources before he could get through his trial. That is one point that I wish to draw attention to.

"The second point that I wish to draw attention to is the way in which his claims are being treated. Pasture, fuel and conveniences for water for his animals are what the villager would require. All through these years of forest policy, the Government have gone on in a wonderfully unimaginative manner and the fuel question has occupied the attention of the Government from time to time, but no solution has as yet been found. From the administration report, Sir, I find—I have calculated the figures and I want to be corrected if I am wrong—that on the average, in this Presidency, a man does not get more than 19 pounds of fuel per year. I wonder if even in the jails the convict population can get on with less than half a ton or about that quantity per year. I really want to know how the fuel supply has to be met. It is said that contractors are selling fuel and agricultural implements. They are making immense profits. I may give the assurance that in my district, fuel is selling at an enormously high rate. I myself had to pay Rs. 16 a cart-load at times in Nandyal. We are at the mercy of the contractors. With regard to agricultural implements, we do not find timber sold in Government depots. In the depots that are mentioned in Government reports, agricultural implements are not sold. But contractors make huge profits by getting these materials from the forests, and they give the ryot any amount of trouble and anxiety with regard to his agricultural necessities.

"There is another point which I wish to draw attention to, particularly, Sir, and that is, grass and water. Animals cannot live on grass alone. Water is found in other ranges than those in which the animals get grass. In all ranges water arrangements have not been made. Even if they have been made they have been made in corners and if cattle have to go from one corner to another when water is available close by in the adjacent range, it is curious that the administration cannot make any provision.

"I do not want to make any further remarks except this, that in the forest cases the accused is convicted merely on the evidence of an ordinary guard. I could cite case after case to establish my point and show that injustice is the rule in forest offences and yet the administration report claims to have increased compounding fees after going to Court. Well,

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that is coercion again. By mere coercion, the ryot is made to yield and compound the case and pay money to the Government and escape from a case which has been foisted on him by a guard for want of a mamul or some prize that the latter would otherwise get."

* Mr. K. SARABHA REDDI :—" Sir, I wish just to bring to the notice of the Government a few grievances that are felt in the district of Kurnool which, in my opinion, show what the policy of the Government is in regard to forest administration. I submit that the Government seems to want to make money out of the sufferings of the people. Kurnool is a district, most part of which is covered with forest, and several villages, nearly half of them, lie on the borders of forests, and the ryot has every day to go to the forest for something or other. No ryot can get on with his agricultural operations or domestic affairs without resorting to the forest for something or other. The grievances are too many to be enumerated within the limited time at my disposal. There was much agitation against the forest administration, so much so that I moved during the term of the second Legislative Council a resolution on the question and a forest committee was appointed. That committee was not provided with all the conveniences it required for the proper doing of its work and still in spite of it, it did finish its labours and made certain recommendations to the Government. The Government were pleased to accept some of the recommendations and passed orders on them. But unfortunately, the same difficulties are being still experienced by the people, and their grievances are as they were before the committee was appointed. What was stated by Government this morning in answer to a question put by Mr. Harisarvottama Rao and in answer to a supplementary question put by me for a clearance of doubt, proves, to some extent, the truth of my assertion. The whole district is divided into three forest districts called Kurnool South, Kurnool East and Kurnool West and each forest district is divided into some ranges. The ranges are so close that they adjoin one another. As my hon. Friend, Mr. Harisarvottama Rao said, in some ranges there is grass for cattle to graze but no water to drink. As soon as the cattle finish grazing they have to go to the adjoining forest for water. The rules were at first very stringent. The cattle were not allowed to go to the adjoining forest for water, and if they entered they were impounded and all the consequences ensued. The forest committee recommended the redress of this grievance. The Government accepted this recommendation but issued orders calculated to affect only partial redress and not complete redress. There are several grievances which are similar to this, and which are more harassing than this. Even now, there are villages in which the forest reserve lines pass almost through the dwelling houses of ryots. The backyards of certain houses are in the forest reserve limits, so that the man should tie his bull within his house always and the moment it is untied, it has to put two feet in the house and the other two feet in the reserve limits for which it is liable to be impounded. Such are the many difficulties which the people are suffering from. The time at my disposal is short, and I am unable to detail all the other grievances. I have mentioned these with a view to bring home to the Government the suffering of the ryots and the unsympathetic nature of the forest administration with the firm hope and belief that the Government will rescue the poor suffering ryots of my district from the harassing effects of the unnecessarily stringent forest laws.

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[Mr. K. Sarabha Reddi]

" I request the Government to be so pleased as to once again go through the recommendations of the Forest Committee, take to heart the causes of discontent, and do something now at least. The grievances of the ryots with regard to the forest administration and the want of irrigation are the two things from which my district is suffering most. These two are lost sight of by the Government and neglected. I request the Government once more to see that such orders are passed as to remove the present forest difficulties and also improve the condition of the ryots by according to them some more facilities."

12-15
p.m.

* Mr. P. C. VENKATAPATI RAJU :—" The administration of the forests is not only uneconomic but oppressive and extravagant. With regard to its oppressive nature it has been adverted to by the two previous speakers. It is an oppression which falls upon the illiterate, dumb masses. The Forest Act is so very all-comprehensive that several provisions of the Evidence Act are set at naught in the administration of the forests and forest cases. Especially when it deals with people who are uneducated and who have not the means of the legal advice, what oppression will it entail will only be known when we know the docile and timid nature of the Indian. The extravagance of the administration will be evident from a glance at the figures. There are about 20,000 square miles of forests in this Presidency from which we got in 1924-25 a net income of Rs. 1,15,000. In 1925-26 we got a net income after providing Rs. 3,55,000 for the development schemes whereas from 1,227 square miles of forests of the third and fourth class—not valuable forests—that are entrusted to the panchayats, the lease amount recovered is Rs. 71,144 as per account in the administration report. Thus, it will be seen that the administration by forest panchayats is both to the convenience of the ryot and to the economic management of our forests. The extravagant way in which the so-called expert forest department is administered is beyond comprehension. They are spending 50 lakhs to get a net income of 3 lakhs. Yesterday in the speech of the hon. the Home Member, it was said that the administration could not but be rather extravagant when we take into consideration the capital expenditure on roads and buildings necessary for developing these forests. If we look into the expenditure we find that out of 44 or 45 lakhs, about only 4 or 5 are spent on buildings and roads. Most of this amount is spent upon the establishment both higher and lower. The lower especially is more oppressive upon the ryot. The Indian Industrial Commission in its report of 1918 said that the natural forest value not only of this Presidency but of the whole of India was the very vast and that the output per square mile, the actual yield was very, very small. It is much more so with regard to our Presidency. If we are to compare this with the figures of the other Presidencies we find that even though there are very good forests in our Presidency, we are deriving only a very small amount and that too collected by harassing the ryots. Of course, in addition to this income there will be a vast income derived—but not to the State. That income, of course, we cannot take into account. With reference to the handing over of these forests, it has been recommended that class III and class IV forests should be handed over to the forest panchayats."

* Mr. H. TIREMAN :—" Mr. President, the hon. Member for the University hit the right nail on the head when he drew attention to the unsatisfactory state of affairs in this Presidency in regard to the difference between revenue

[Mr. H. Tireman]

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and expenditure. Last night, I looked into the figures regarding other provinces to which the hon. Mover had referred. I find, in the case of Bombay, the Punjab and the United Provinces, that large sums of money were spent on the development of forests some considerable time ago, say, ten years. The reason why these three provinces (the United Provinces, the Punjab and Bombay) are now making large surpluses is that they are reaping the benefit of the spade work, if I may so call it, which they did so many years ago. The chief reason why we are making so little profit is that, as was explained by the hon. the Home Member yesterday, until three or four years ago too much of our attention was paid to the poorer reserves now called ryots' forests to the detriment of the more valuable timber forests. We have got rid of a considerable number of ryots' forests from forest control but, until three or four years ago, so much of our attention and so much of our time was spent on these forests that practically nothing was done to develop the more valuable forests. It is only recently that we have been able to devote expenditure to that object. It takes a good deal of time to get anything done in the way of forest development as there is so much that is necessary in the way of laying roads, etc. The transfer of ryots' forests to panchayats has enabled the attention of the trained staff to be devoted to the more important work of exploiting and developing the valuable timber forests. It has also enabled Government considerably to reduce the establishment. Several hon. Members have animadverted on the heavy cost of establishment. I may say that by the transfer of forests to panchayats a saving has already been effected of about two lakhs per annum against which of course has to be put the cost of the panchayat establishment which is estimated in the coming year to be about Rs. 1,12,000. There is thus a saving of Rs. 90,000. This has already been effected. Seven forest divisions have been abolished already; and I am now considering the possibility of abolishing one more, viz., the Nellore forest division. There may be thus eight forest divisions abolished. We cannot however abolish eight posts of district officers. We can only abolish seven. I have not got time to explain why that is so. Of those seven officers' posts which may possibly be abolished, it is a question how many posts may be abolished in the Imperial service and how many in the Provincial service. This is a question which requires examination. But assuming that four Imperial officers' posts and three Provincial officers' posts can be abolished there will be a saving of three lakhs per annum from which we shall still have to deduct the cost of the panchayat forest establishment—over one lakh—, and there will be a net saving of two lakhs of rupees. I give these figures to the House because it seems to me that we are really doing our best to reduce the cost of establishment. This saving is not yet apparent in the budget estimate for several reasons, one of which is that there has been an increase in the number of officers in the Imperial service and in their pay. This would have occurred in any case. If we had not transferred these forests to the panchayats, Government would now be spending two lakhs more on establishment. As regards the establishment and especially the number of highly paid officers, I would like to inform the House what are the areas dealt with by each Imperial and Provincial forest officer in Madras and in the other provinces to which the hon. Mover referred to yesterday. (A voice: 'With the area of forests also if possible.') I think I can give that. In the Punjab there are 93 square miles per officer; United Provinces 96 square miles, Bengal 138 square miles, Bombay 177 square miles and Madras 200. It is only in the case of the Central Provinces where

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there are 380 square miles per officer that an officer has a larger area to look after than he has here. (A voice: And Burma?) I am afraid I cannot give the figures for Burma, because the conditions are quite different there.

"Coming to what Mr. Muniswami Nayudu said yesterday regarding Chittoor, the chief trouble there is said to be the proximity of village forests. Several hon. Members have mentioned this. I would say that orders have been issued more than once that if any such case is brought to the notice of the local officers, the facts should be reported to me so that I may immediately take steps to get the reserve lines removed. I do not think, therefore, that is a real grievance, because it is a grievance which can be removed.

"I will now come to what my hon. Friend Mr. Adinarayana Chettiyar 12-30 was saying yesterday. He stated that the ryots in the North Arcot district p.m. were not benefited by the forests."

* Mr. T. ADINARAYANA CHETTIYAR :—"I referred to manure leaves."

* Mr. H. TIREMAN :—"It has been estimated that something like half the population of this Presidency are not directly interested in the forests. The forests however belong to these people just as much as to the people who live quite close to the forests, and it is not fair on the general population to allow forests to deteriorate. That is the reason why restrictions are placed on the removal of manure leaves. As regards the subject of manure leaves, I should mention that it is under the consideration of Government.

"The hon. Member mentioned that we have too many Conservators. I looked into the figures with regard to other provinces in this matter. In the United Provinces the number of Conservators is one for 1,237 square miles, in the Punjab one for 2,000 square miles, in Madras one for 2,700 square miles, and in Bombay one for 3,000 square miles. In comparison, therefore, with other provinces, we are not overstaffed in the matter of Conservators.

"The hon. Member also alluded to the Supernumerary Extra Assistant Conservators who are fed like white elephants. I do not know how white elephants are fed but the reason for the existence of supernumerary officers is that originally, Government recruited too many, as there was an idea of entering into a big scheme of forest development in the Agency tract. It was found that it was not likely to be successful. Therefore, a number of these officers were not required and were put on the supernumerary list. Although they are put on the supernumerary list, I may say they are fully employed. There is plenty of work for them to do. The existence of these supernumerary officers is also due to the reduction in the establishment owing to the transfer of forests to panchayats. They will be absorbed gradually as vacancies occur.

"My time is very short but I would like to say a few words about exploitation. I would like to remove the misapprehension which appears to exist in the minds of some hon. Members that Government want to engage themselves in competitive trade. This is not the case. Our work is entirely experimental. The ultimate object, I take it, is that private enterprise shall take over the exploitation of the forests. But until experiments show that private enterprise can undertake exploitation at a profit you cannot expect private companies to come forward. Much organization is necessary to carry out the experimental work. It is necessary first to ascertain how much timber there is, in the forest, of different kinds, and whether it is possible to

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remove it economically. It also must be sawn into marketable sizes, and most important of all, it must be seasoned. Artificial seasoning of timber is a new departure. It is expensive and it costs a good deal to season timber in this way. While teak and some other timbers do not require artificial seasoning, almost all the timber of the evergreen forests are useless unless artificially seasoned. All these things have to be carried out before we can decide whether it is economically possible to engage on forest exploitation, and I do not think it is fair to expect private companies to do all that sort of work. It is up to the Government to show the way and to demonstrate that it is possible for private enterprise to undertake forest exploitation at a forest.

"As regards Chenat Nair, I may say that although we had a loss in the last year, we should have made a profit had it not been for the fact that it was found necessary to write off a lot of timber which had gone bad. This timber had been felled as a reserve to guard against the possibility of having to close down the mill for want of timber. As, however, the work at Chenat Nair is entirely experimental, the fact that the operations have so far resulted in loss, is not very material."

* Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR :—"Sir, before dealing with the general question, I shall deal with one or two special questions. A number of local difficulties are brought before the notice of the Advisory Committee, and I am glad to say that the present Home Member has promised to look into them. Our difficulty is that many of those things are passed by the Advisory Committee, and though the hon. the Home Member, the Chief Conservator and the Secretary of the Department are all members of the Committee, yet, when we pass resolutions it takes a lot of time for them to pass orders. One of these is the standardization of compounding fees. Now, although a man has taken six pice worth of grass or fuel from the forest, he can be made to pay a very large sum of money without any limitation whatever. I am very glad that the hon. the Home Member, in answer to a question this morning, said that the matter was under consideration, and I hope he will elucidate, a little more, the answer on the subject whether any remedy can be expected in the near future.

"One other difficulty is with regard to people who are on the borders of two ranges. The half-mile limit now fixed for each range is very insufficient. I would request the Government to consider the advisability of permitting people living on the borders of two ranges to graze their cattle in both the ranges on one permit. That will be a solution that will go a long way to meet the difficulty.

"Then, coming to the question of exploitation, I may say that I have visited some of these forests, and taken some trouble in visiting the Chenat Nair forest itself. The whole trouble is however due to the high establishment charges. No doubt, as a businessman, I know that we cannot expect a large income or any dividend for some years in the beginning. It is true also that we have to invest large sums of money to make the forests capable of yielding a profit. But one chief reason why we do not get a proper income is that we have got to pay very heavy establishment charges. The Chief Conservator himself was pleased to say that they had recruited too many men and that there were a large number of supernumerary appointments. This point I have referred to year after year. The most unpleasant thing is that in this department, the Forest department, the proportion of

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Europeans to Indians is much larger than even in the Indian Civil Service. Out of 54 appointments, there are 7 or 8 Indians who have come to this favoured cadre.

"One other thing is that in connexion with the panchayat question we were told on the floor of this House more than once that it will lead to a reduction in the number of circles. But the Chief Conservator was pleased to say that eight divisions will be abolished as a result of handing over the forests to panchayats. In spite of these things, there is very little reduction in the number of appointments. One great difficulty is, as I have said before, that they have a large margin in the number of appointments. Why should the Government give the power in this Forest department alone to the Chief Conservator to appoint any number of men up to 54 on the list? I pointed out some time ago that the then number of appointments made was 44 and the remaining seats might be abolished. That was not done, with the result that there are now 47 officers, and whenever the Chief Conservator wants to appoint anybody he can forthwith appoint him to this cadre. Therefore, Government should look into this matter and see that the necessary reduction in the cadre is made.

"As regards the exploitation schemes, the appointments are unnecessarily large in number. Taking the Chenat Nair scheme, if you look into the number of appointments you will find a number of exploitation officers, a number of assistants, and several range officers—I believe there are four or five range officers in that small place. All that is unnecessarily large. That accounts for the losses year after year. If you look at the establishment charges, it comes to Rs. 25,000 or more for this single scheme.

"The Chief Conservator also referred to writing off. I am afraid this writing off will have to be done even this year. Looking into the balance sheet, you find a large stock on hand. That means a large amount of money spent on establishments and coolies. They take out large quantities of timber expecting to be sold, and, instead of all that being used by human beings, they are subsequently eaten by white ants. That accounts for the large stock on hand which is mentioned in the balance sheet.

"Then, if you look into the number of officers for the whole exploitation scheme, it is very large besides the fact that a number of officers in the regular cadre have been drawn for this exploitation purpose. Government should look into this matter. It is very difficult for us to say who is necessary and who is not, but, on the whole, we have only to consider them as white elephants. Of course they have sent Mr. Martin, probably on leave. I suppose he has gone with a view to finding purchasers for our logs in America. We import large quantities of timber both manufactured and otherwise from foreign countries, and certainly I think that our Government and our exploitation officers should look into this question and first try to sell our products in our own country. I may here refer to the tea-boxes required by the tea planters. I do not see why our forests could not produce those tea boxes. I know that from the Chenat Nair forest a very large number of tea-boxes were being sent both to Coimbatore and the Anamalai tea estates. In my drawing room, I may boast of having furniture made of timber from those forests, and I may tell my hon. Friends that Mr. S. Srinivasa Ayyangar, our Leader, seeing that furniture was very satisfactory, ordered some for himself through me. I just mention this to show that we are capable of manufacturing very good things provided we

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make a proper experiment. Otherwise, we have to give up exploitation simply because Government spend a large sum of money upon establishments. Let them first have only indigenous people, I think we will be able to have a very large margin of profits. Year after year we will be able to diminish the burden of taxation on the ordinary taxpayer.

"My time limit is almost over, and I will only refer to one other matter. In the Chenat Nair forest it was my unfortunate lot to learn a few days ago that the workmen there were not properly treated. One instance of that is that a man died there while he was at work. I was told Government was not aware of that fact till very recently, or till I mentioned it in one of the motions for a cut. Sir, a cooly died by the fall of a tree while working. There is no provision in the whole Government scheme to give any compensation to the bereaved family. Under the Factories Act, they have recently introduced a system by which companies are compelled to give compensation to workmen who get injuries or die in the course of their work. But one does not know whether people getting injuries or dying in the case of Government works will get any compensation. In this particular case not a pie has been given by the Government. But the people there took so much pity on his poor family—they are all people getting good salaries but yet it is very charitable for them—that they subscribed in all Rs. 100—I am told so, I speak subject to correction—to be given to the members of that unfortunate family. I would therefore say that a special provision should be made, and coolies and labourers made aware of that fact, that Government have made rules that they will get ample compensation for injuries received or death caused in the course of their work. This will probably enable the Government to get cheap labour.

"With these few words, I support the motion."

12-45
p.m.

* Mr. B. RAMACHANDRA REDDI :—"Mr. President, Sir, while supporting this motion heartily I wish to invite the attention of the hon. the Home Member to one point in the administration which seems to be of some importance. Turning to page 79 of the Civil Budget Estimate you will find that a provision has been made for two additional forest panchayat officers as against one in 1926-27. I do not see any necessity for the provision of an additional forest panchayat officer for the year 1927-28. G.O. No. 1424, dated 30th September 1925, clearly contemplates that no third officer is necessary and that the two forest officers already there are quite sufficient for administering the department. Further, it was contemplated that these two people should be kept on a par. But facts show that that is not the case. The existing forest panchayat officer is given Rs. 300 to Rs. 850 with a special pay of Rs. 100 whereas the additional forest panchayat officer is given Rs. 200 to Rs. 300 with no special pay. The Government Order has clearly stated that there should be only two panchayat officers. And especially now, after the whole work of organization is over—I hear there is only two months' work before the panchayat officers—when the work is practically coming to a close, I do not find any need for a third officer. This indicates an attempt in the direction of creating a miniature head of a province. This has been deprecated in the Government Order referred to now. It is clearly laid down there that no attempt to appoint or create a miniature head of a province should be encouraged. Consistently with that, I should think that the provision for a third panchayat officer should be

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deleted from the Budget. Further, as contemplated by the Government Order no independent charge to the existing panchayat officers has been given. This shows how the department is working, and how the Government do not hesitate to appoint more officers unnecessarily. It also further indicates that another attempt has been made to make the administration topheavy. I hope, Sir, Government will reconsider this and delete the allotment for the second additional forest panchayat officer."

* Mr. A. PARASURAMA RAO:—"Mr. President, I am interested in pointing out the uselessness of the forests that are proposed to be handed over to the panchayats, especially in Cuddapah. I will first show how these forests have been classified, how they have been placed before the public and what sort of public opinion was taken on them. Mr. Whitehead was placed on special duty, and he was told to classify the forests and to suggest which class of forests can be handed over to the panchayats. Accordingly, he sent his report classifying the forests into five classes and suggesting that the fifth class of forests may be handed over to the people to manage them. Before passing final orders, the Government directed the Collectors to consult public opinion as to whether they were satisfied with the classification of forests. The Collectors called some representatives of the district for the purpose of consultation, and they said that so far as my district (Cuddapah) was concerned, they could not give their opinion off-hand and that they must consult their villagers before giving any opinion. The consideration of the subject was postponed. Eventually, when the matter came up for consideration, on account of bad weather a number of representatives were not present, the Collector, one District Forest Officer and myself were alone present and my voice was absolutely uncared for and the voice of the two Government servants prevailed. I was not able to impress upon them the utter uselessness of the kind of forests that were to be handed over to the panchayats. Any how, the recommendation was sent up by the Collector, who was in a hurry to send the report and would not postpone consideration. Apart from these, I would place one important fact before the House, and that is, the forests that have been selected, so far as I can personally see, are almost barren. There is absolutely nothing except a few blades of grass here and there, and as was said just now by the Conservator of Forests, the possibilities of the forest were not at all taken into consideration in the matter of allowing grazing facilities to the villagers. Only when grazing fees are collected, the Conservator is ready to say that the possibilities of the forest ought to be taken into consideration, and in the matter of handing over the forests to the panchayats, this consideration would not in the least prevail. That is what I find. The classification shows that it is made regardless of the conveniences of the people for whom the forests are intended. Further, there were certain forests which would afford some benefit to the villagers and we pressed hard upon the Collector and the District Forest Officer to hand them over to the panchayats. But they remained obdurate. They would not do it in spite of the fact that Mr. Whitehead had classified them under class V. The District Forest Officer was reluctant to hand over this forest for the fear that there would be retrenchment and that he would be asked to go away. He thought he should classify these forests under the higher class, and to this end, notes were made in the inspection book successively by two inspecting officers that the forest at the top, which is, I should say, by the way, inaccessible, contained some red sanders and other valuable timber."

(The Member had to resume his seat, his time-limit being over.)

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* The hon. Mr. T. E. MOIR :—" I do not propose to deal with any of the administrative aspects of the Forest department which have been raised in the debate yesterday and to-day, but in the first speech—that of the hon. Member for the University—attention was rightly called to the very serious change in the financial aspect of our Forest department. The hon. the Home Member has pointed out, and quite rightly, to the House that it is in no small degree due to the fact that the Forest department before the reforms was paid on a very low scale, and I think hon. Members who were Members of the pre-reform Council would remember that there was a perpetual complaint in that Council that inadequacy of pay was one of those causes which led them to harass the ryots. The change in the position is because we do not regard the Forest department solely as a revenue making department. Is it desirable that it should yield as much revenue as possible and provide for its own cost? But we do not forget and have never forgotten that its main object is to supply the needs of the people and it must pay attention to the facts that the ryots do require fuel, that they require timber for houses, that they require implements for agriculture and that they require grazing for their cattle. If we ran it purely on a commercial basis, it would of course yield a very large revenue because we would then charge for all these things on a commercial basis, that is, we would have to charge to the ryots the same rate as they would have to pay if they imported these things. It is therefore not entirely fair to the Forest administration to judge of its operations by a mere comparative statement of expenditure and revenue. But the great change which has taken place in reference to our own forests since the days before the war is that the supply of timber, etc., is now a world problem and the potentialities of our forests is part of that problem. And every Member of this House knows that the demand for timber throughout the world is rapidly growing and tends greatly to exceed the supply. I think that any hon. Member of this House who happens to be interested in any industry which requires the use of paper will be able to say to what extent the price of paper has gone up since 20 years ago. And that is only one indication of the factor to which I referred, that the supply of wood throughout the world is a world problem, that timber has got a world market and we cannot possibly remain unaffected by that factor. In view of such a situation, it is essential that we should develop our forests so as to meet our own needs as far as possible.

1 p.m. " I should be glad if I had heard a little more appreciation of what the Forest department has accomplished in the last forty or fifty years. Those who have read the literature on the subject will know what the position was when at last we did constitute a scientific and organized department. There were forests which were rapidly disappearing and there were grazing grounds which were fast deteriorating and the supply of fuel and small timber was growing more and more difficult to find. Why was that? It was because we had not been in a position to make any attempt to conserve our resources. It had been found from the better experience of many years that it was necessary to ensure that such supplies as were available should not vanish and that what was taken away should be replaced. This has been the problem the Forest department has been facing for the last two generations. Not only that. They were also concerned with seeing that the existing supply was, as far as possible, economically and equitably distributed and consistently with the paramount need that the supply should be replaced and not allowed to be permanently destroyed.

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[Mr. T. E. Moir]

" Another new factor is that our population has increased immensely in the last few decades and therefore we are forced to make greater use of our resources. This we have not been able to do in the case of large areas. Why? Because, we could only rely on indigenous methods of research and utilize such indigenous talent as we had at our disposal. We are now going to make use of our resources by going beyond the indigenous methods which enable work to be carried out only to a short distance from the foot of the hills mainly, whereas our main supplies are in remote areas and in fever-stricken valleys. If we are not going to utilize all our own resources we will have to import more and more and the cost to the consumer will increase greatly.

" The hon. Member from Malabar drew attention to the Chenai Nair forests. I was astonished at his attitude, for, he has great experience of administrative questions. Did we ever say that the saw mills we were going to set up were going to be a paying proposition at once? No. We held that it was essential that we should tackle this problem as to whether we could develop our resources or not. No one said that results could be brought about in five years or even in ten years. On the contrary, I contend that it will be necessary to have a co-related and consistent programme spread over a period of at least twenty years before we can finally solve this problem to our satisfaction, as to whether we can use these great resources which are locked up in Western Ghats, in South Kanara and in our Tinnevely forests and thus enable our province not only to supply its own needs in timber but to foster all those various industries which depend on the supply of timber at a reasonable price. I think it is a great pity that the only thing that should be called attention to with reference to these experiments is the fact that they are for the present working at a loss. How can we work at a loss seeing what the nature of the problem is?

" One hon. Member referred to results in other provinces. If we had contiguous areas of homogeneous forests of devdar, sal and other timber, we could show as good results and even better. But we have not. We are dealing with big tropical forests and the problem is to find out how and for what purpose the large variety of different timbers they contain can be utilized. Perplexing economic questions cannot fail to arise in the exploitation of our unknown forests and in finding out to what use they can be put. The experiments are intended for finding out how are timbers can be extracted and, after being extracted, to what purpose they can be put whether for house timber or for sleepers or other countless uses. There is an immense field of enquiry before us in all these respects. To contribute to it is the sole object of these various experiments in our saw mills and in modern methods of extraction. I would deprecate the suggestion that we can show positive results within one or two years of the starting of these experiments and that we should not carry on the experiments until that issue is finally settled one way or the other, an issue which is of great importance not only to the general interests of the Presidency but to our financial interests as well."

* Mr. K. R. KARANT :—" Mr. President, Sir, after the very hopeful speech made by the hon the Finance Member describing the scientific way in which the forests are being developed and so on, it will rather be dull for this House to hear a few grievances of the people of South Kanara in relation to the forests in that district. The difficulties in that district are very many.

[Mr. K. R. Karant]

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On account of the very heavy rainfall, our forests are much thicker than elsewhere. Our complaints in the matter of the forest administration are many and I request the Government to pay some heed to what I submit and to constitute a committee to go into this question with some sympathy. I do not say that there are no difficulties for the Government. They have their own difficulties and sometimes the ryots also, I know, exaggerate their difficulties. I will give an instance to show how the ryots exaggerate their difficulties. An association in the South Kanara district passed a resolution some two years ago that there should be a stone boundary wall about ten feet high along the boundary of the reserves. I can see that such a proposition is ridiculous. We cannot expect the Government to do that. But there are some small things, which, if the Government care to heed to the voice of the people, can set right. I will now refer to some of those things. On account of the constant trouble given by the wild elephants in the Sampaje reserve, Kheddah operations were started by Government at great cost one or two years ago but they have been stopped this year. I put an interpellation on the matter just to get some figures, but I have not been able to get them yet. I am told that this year these operations which were begun at so much cost have been all on a sudden given up. I hope the Member in charge will explain why these operations started at so much cost have been all on a sudden given up. I am told that the department concerned is now employed in supplying sleepers.

"Another thing I want to refer to is in respect of large tracts of cultivable areas included in the reserves. I have got with me some petitions submitted by the people in the year 1922 asking that these cultivable areas should be excluded from the reserves and thrown open for cultivation. I will now read the order passed on one of these petitions on 4th December 1924—

'The question as to which plots are fit for cultivation in Sampaji reserve is under consideration and when suitable plots are demarcated by special duty surveyor, they will be disafforested. After this is done you can apply to Tahsildar for grant of patta in the usual manner. No further petition should be sent to the District Forest Officer.'"

Mr. V. PANDRANG 'Row:—"May I know from what paper the hon. Member is reading?"

* Mr. K. R. KARANT:—"I am reading an order passed by Mr. F. R. Madan, District Forest Officer, South Kanara. I have got with me three orders to this effect. A special duty officer was appointed at some cost in 1924 and now although three years have elapsed we have not yet been told what has become of his report and whether these areas are going to be thrown open for cultivation at all.

"Another complaint of the people which reached me is this. They wanted the forest authorities to burn the lantana growth in the villages. This is what they say in their petition:

'Foot-paths in our villages are overgrown with lantana which affords shelter to poisonous reptiles and we pray that the Forest Department may be ordered to destroy them by burning.'"

(The Member had to resume his seat, his time-limit being over.)

* The hon. Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—"Mr. President, Sir, I just like to answer some of the points raised in the course of the debate.

"My hon. Friend from Ohittoor said that we were not making a very great progress in the matter of forest panchayats. As I have said on the

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floor of the House on a former occasion, the attitude of the Government with regard to the forest panchayats is one of entire sympathy. We have already brought under the forest panchayats 2,300 square miles of ryots' forests and before the end of this month we hope to bring 300 square miles more. Then what is left will be about 1,200 square miles only. We hope to hand over those forests to the management of the forest panchayat before the end of this year. In order to do this work we require adequate staff. It has been found that one panchayat officer and an assistant is not sufficient. It is for that reason that we have budgeted for another assistant officer. If we want to carry on this work quickly, we want the necessary staff. For that reason it is that I have come before the House for one more assistant panchayat officer.

"In reply to my hon. Friend, Mr. Venkataramana Ayyangar, I have to say that we have to spend some money in order that we may get a return. As a businessman, he said, he knew it. That is exactly the position of the Government with regard to the Forest department. He wants to get revenue out of the forests. As has been said by my hon. Friend the Chief Conservator of Forests, we have to spend some money now so that the forests may bring in considerable revenue later on.

"My hon. Friend from Coimbatore said something about the paucity of Indian officers in the higher posts. Sir, I understand that there are six conservators in all in the department and that, of these, two are Indians. (Mr. C. V. Venkataramana Ayyangar: 'acting or temporary?') Of course, acting. In time they will be made permanent. These are all administrative details. We cannot all on a sudden make people permanent. The fact remains that two of these higher posts are now being filled by Indians.

"My hon. Friend referred next to the Forest Advisory Committees' resolutions and said that they were not being looked into immediately and orders passed. Sir, some of the questions raised by the forest advisory committee are of such great importance that some amount of attention has to be bestowed on them and correspondence carried on with the head of the department. I may say, however, that I hope to pass orders on them in a month or two.

"Most of the grievances mentioned by hon. Members appertain to the localities and I am sure that I shall note those grievances and see what I can do in the matter. As I have said yesterday the reason why we have not been able to get a large amount of revenue from the forests is due to the fact that on account of the situation of the forests we have to spend much money on laying roads, etc. I should like to draw attention to the other aspect of the matter, viz., the exploitation of the commercial forests. A forest engineering branch has been constituted for the exploitation of the commercial forests and this branch has inaugurated several schemes, such as the Chenat Nair exploitation operations, the Nilambur and Mount Stuart Forest operations, Olavakote and Beypore saw mill operations and those of Parappa, Chidleth and Pollachi. The object of all those is to increase the revenue from forests. But these require considerable capital expenditure in the beginning and no great profits can be expected at the outset. In course of time, when the several other schemes which are now under consideration are started and the preliminary nature of the work is completed, the revenue from forests will considerably increase.

[Mr. Muhammad Usman Sahib] [17th March 1927]

1-15
p.m.

"Yesterday, I told hon. Members of the House that we had already called for a report with regard to the further exploitation of the forests. The report is now before the Government and they are considering this question. When I come before the House again, I hope they would sympathetically view the matter and grant the amount necessary to make the forests a paying concern.

"Before I resume my seat, I think it is my duty to say that my hon. Friend Mr. Tireman has been discharging his duties in a most satisfactory manner. The department has had the advantage of a gentleman who has been very sympathetic, able and efficient. Of course, I am sorry that he will be leaving us. But I am glad that his services have been appreciated by the Government of India. I have great pleasure in congratulating him on the excellent work he has done here as the head of the Forest department."

The motion was put to the House and declared carried.

A poll was demanded and the House divided as follows :—

Ayes

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1. Mr. Sami Venkatachalam Chetti. | 28. Nattam Dubash Kadir Sahib Syed Ibrahim Sahib Bahadur. |
| 2. " S. Satyamurti. | 29. Mr. K. S. Sivastubhramanya Ayyar. |
| 3. " C. V. Venkataramana Ayyangar. | 30. " L. K. Tulasingam. |
| 4. " T. Adinarayana Chettiyar. | 31. " K. R. Karant. |
| 5. " P. Anjaneyulu. | 32. " K. V. Krishnaswami Nayakar. |
| 6. " K. Koti Reddi. | 33. " K. Madhavan Nayar. |
| 7. " S. Muttayya Mudaliyar. | 34. " C. Venkatarangam Nayudu. |
| 8. " P. C. Venkateswari Raju. | 35. " D. Venkataratnam. |
| 9. " P. Siva Rao. | 36. " C. Gopala Menon. |
| 10. " C. S. Govindaraja Mudaliyar. | 37. Mr. M. A. Manikkavelu Nayakar. |
| 11. Mr. G. Harisaravottama Rao. | 38. Rao Bahadur C. S. Ratnasabhapati. |
| 12. " C. N. Muthuranga Mudaliyar. | Mudaliyar. |
| 13. " Abdul Hamid Khan. | 39. Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. Patro. |
| 14. " K. V. R. Swami. | 40. Diwan Bahadur M. Krishnan Nayar. |
| 15. " K. P. V. S. Muhammad Meera Ravuttar. | 41. Khan Bahadur S. K. Abdul Razack Sahib Bahadur. |
| 16. " D. Narayana Raju. | 42. Mr. P. T. Rajan. |
| 17. K. Uppi Sahib Bahadur. | 43. Rao Sahib S. Ellappa Chettiyar. |
| 18. Mr. C. Marudavanam Pillai. | 44. Diwan Bahadur P. C. Ethirajulu Nayudu. |
| 19. " J. A. Saldanha. | 45. Muhammad Khadir Mohidin Sahib Bahadur. |
| 20. " C. Obi Reddi. | 46. Rao Bahadur B. Muniswami Nayudu. |
| 21. " A. Parasurama Rao Pantulu. | 47. Mr. K. Ramachandra Padayachi. |
| 22. " U. Ramaswami Ayyar. | 48. " K. Sarabha Reddi. |
| 23. " C. Ramasomayajulu. | 49. Rao Bahadur K. Sitarama Reddi. |
| 24. " P. Bhaktavatsulu Nayudu. | 50. Mr. J. Kuppuswami. |
| 25. Sriman Biswanath Das Mahasaya. | |
| 26. Mr. A. Kaleswara Rao. | |
| 27. " R. Srinivasa Ayyangar. | |

Noes.

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|---|--|
| 1. The hon. Sir C. P. Ramaswami Ayyar. | 11. Mr. H. Tireman. |
| 2. " Mr. N. E. Marjoribanks. | 12. " G. T. Boag. |
| 3. " Khan Bahadur Muhammad Usman Sahib Bahadur. | 13. " V. Pandrang Rao. |
| 4. " Mr. T. E. Moir. | 14. " S. H. Slater. |
| 5. " Diwan Bahadur R. N. Arogyaswami Mudaliyar. | 15. " C. B. Cotterell. |
| 6. " Mr. A. Ranganatha Mudaliyar. | 16. Khan Bahadur Muhammad Basul-lah Sahib Bahadur. |
| 7. " Dr. P. Subbarayan. | 17. The Zamindar of Seithur. |
| 8. Dr. (Mrs.) Muthulakshmi Reddi. | 18. Abbas Ali Khan Bahadur. |
| 9. Mr. J. F. Hall. | 19. Mr. C. D. Apparu Chettiyar. |
| 10. " P. L. Moore. | 20. " H. B. Ari Gowder. |
| | 21. " A. B. Shetty. |

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Noes—cont.

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| 22. Mr. M. J. Bheemayya. | 37. Mr. Chavadi K. Subrahmanya Pillai. |
| 23. Rao Sahib M. Hampayya. | 38. " D. Thomas. |
| 24. Mr. V. Ch. John. | 39. " S. Venkayya. |
| 25. Mahmud Sahannad Sahib Bahadur. | 40. " K. R. Venkatarama Ayyar. |
| 26. Mr. Mupil Nayar of Kavalappara alias
Kumaran Raman. | 41. " K. Krishnan. |
| 27. Mr. E. Nagan Gowda. | 42. " S. Arpudawami Udayar. |
| 28. Subadar Major S. A. Nanjappa ' Bahadur.' | 43. The Zamindar of Gollapalli. |
| 29. Mr. Al. Ar. Narayanan Chettiyar. | 44. Mr. G. Premayya. |
| 30. Rao Bahadur O. M. Narayanan Nambudripad. | 45. Syed Tajudin Sahib Bahadur. |
| 31. Mr. T. M. Narayanaswami Pillai. | 46. Swami A. S. Sahajanandam. |
| 32. " N. Siva Raj. | 47. Mr. E. Srinivasan. |
| 33. " M. V. Gangadhara Siva. | 48. " C. R. T. Congreve. |
| 34. " W. P. A. Soundara Pandiya Nadar. | 49. Sir Alexander MacDougall. |
| 35. " T. C. Srinivasa Ayyangar. | 50. Mr. J. Mackenzie Smith. |
| 36. " S. Subrahmanya Moopanar. | 51. " C. E. Wood. |
| | 52. Rao Sahib L. C. Guruswami. |
| | 53. Mr. V. I. Muniswami Pillai. |

50 hon. Members voted *for* the motion and 53 *against*. The motion was lost.

* Mr. K. KOTI REDDI:—" I beg to move, Sir,
' *To reduce the allotment of Rs. 1,00,400 for General Direction by Rs. 100.*'

"In doing so, I wish to speak on the working of the Forest Panchayats. Much has already been said by some hon. Members of this Council of the way in which the classification regarding different kinds of forests has been made. The classification of the forests which ought to be handed over to the Forest Panchayats has not been made under some excuse or other. Some forests have been proposed by Mr. Whitehead to be undisposed of and retained for some time so that before handing them over they can ascertain how the forests that would be handed over to the ryots would be managed and then hand over those forests. In most of these cases, the Government have not retained the forests as proposed but have practically decided that the forests should be permanently treated as reserved forests. Even though the ryots' forests do not contain anything of much value, the ryots have demonstrated that they could get some income out of them. We are glad to hear that the hon. Member, the Chief Conservator of Forests had admitted to-day that the forest administration had not been carried on well during a number of years. He said that while other provinces have been able to get some decent income out of forests, this Presidency has not been able to get it. It is no fault of ours, if proper provision was not made for the development and exploitation of the forests. We ought to be able to get more income out of them. We have 20,000 square miles of reserved forests. We have now been able to get an income of only Rs. 15 for an acre. We ought to be able to get at least Rs. 1,000 for an acre, if only the forests were properly administered. My complaint in regard to the ryots' forests is this. Any large extent of useful area has not been handed over to the Forest Panchayats. Secondly, even the little income which the Forest Panchayats have been able to get, out of them has been appropriated by the Government. I say that this little income, instead of being appropriated for general purposes, ought to be handed over to the Forest Panchayats themselves for spending on their forests. Unless the ryots take proper precaution to plant some trees to supplant those that are cut they cannot develop the forests that are handed over to them, and the time will come when those forests would be denuded and be able to yield little income. On that ground it is absolutely necessary that the income derived from these forests ought to be spent on the improvement of the forests themselves. I maintain that the

[Mr. K. Koti Reddi]

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Government instead of taking that money for general purposes, ought to hand it over to the Forest Panchayats to be spent by them on the improvement of the forests.

"There are one or two minor points that I want to bring to the notice of the Government, so that there might be some improvement. Although I am glad to see that some acres of forests have been handed over to the ryots, the utility of the forests depends on the way in which the panchayatdars are selected. I wish to bring to the notice of the Government that they must be more careful in the selection of panchayatdars. Unless the Government take necessary measures for exercise of the choice of selecting the panchayatdars to the ryots in a proper way, the system would not work well. Summoning the villagers and asking them to raise their hands would not do. There should be a better system of selection. It is absolutely necessary to get impartial men who will render justice between ryot and ryot.

"I want to bring to the notice of the Government one more point. Hitherto any villager near or away from the forest areas was entitled to use the forests. Now since the forests have been handed over to the ryots, those villagers adjoining the forests under whose management the forests are, may want to utilise all the materials of that forest for themselves without caring for the interest of the other villagers who are not very near those forests.

1-30
p.m.

"There are even now large tracts of country where there are no forests, and the villages in them are at a distance of, say, 10, 20 or 30 miles away from the forests. If the forests are handed over to the ryots unless some precautions are taken, it is just possible that the ryots to whom particular areas are handed over may deprive the ryots living in the distant villages of the benefit of the forests. So, Sir, I suggest that some rules should be framed in order to see that the interests of the ryots in such villages are not neglected by the ryots to whom these forests are handed over. With these words, Sir, I move for the reduction and I hope the House will pass the motion."

* The hon. Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—"Sir, Mr. Tireman may be allowed to reply."

* Mr. H. TIREMAN :—"Sir, as regards the classification made by Mr. Whitehead, according to which certain forests have been handed over or are being handed over to panchayats, I may say that the original classification was made to include 4,000 square miles of forests to be handed over to panchayats. But Mr. Whitehead did not consult public opinion with the result that a further enquiry was made into the details of the classification, which was referred to the Collectors of districts. They appointed local committees to go into the matter. These committees reduced the total area to be handed over to the panchayats from 4,000 square miles to 3,600 and odd square miles or so. The panchayats would have been better off under the original classification. As regards the hon. mover's suggestion that forest under class I also should be handed over to the panchayats, I must point out that in some cases, these forests are protective and it is necessary to keep them under the control of the Forest department in order to prevent too much cutting of trees and too much grazing by goats, etc., being carried out and to safeguard the irrigation, which, as the hon. Member knows, is the mainstay of the people living at the foot of the hills from being prejudicially affected. It would not be fair either to the panchayats themselves or to the public to hand over those forests which are classed as protective. I say it, would not be

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[Mr. H. Tireman]

fair to the panchayats because it would be too much to expect that they should safeguard the forests in the interest of other people. In the other case, the people on the hill sides will suffer by the rain water, which would otherwise be held up by free growth, rushing down the hill sides and doing damage to the land. It would not be fair on the public to leave their interests entirely in the hands of other people."

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—"The time allotted for this Demand having expired, I shall put the question to the House."

The motion was put to the House and declared lost. The poll was demanded with the following result :—

Ayes—48.

- | | |
|--|--|
| 1. Mr. Sami Venkatachalam Chetti. | 25. Sirman Biswanath Des Mahasayo. |
| 2. " S. Satyamurti. | 26. Mr. B. Srinivasa Ayyangar. |
| 3. " C. V. Venkataramana Ayyangar. | 27. Syed Ibrahim Sahib Bahadur. |
| 4. " T. Adinarayana Chetti. | 28. Mr. K. Sivasubrahmanya Ayyar. |
| 5. " S. Muttayya Mudaliyar. | 29. " A. Kameswara Rao Nayudn. |
| 6. " P. Anjaneyulu. | 30. " L. K. Tulasiram. |
| 7. " K. Koti Reddi. | 31. " K. R. Karant. |
| 8. " P. C. Venkatapati Raju. | 32. " K. Krishnaswami Nayakar. |
| 9. " C. S. Govindaraja Mudaliyar. | 33. " K. Madhavan Nayar. |
| 10. " G. Harisarvottama Rao. | 34. " C. Venkatarangam Nayudu. |
| 11. " C. Muthuranga Mudaliyar. | 35. " B. Venkataratnam. |
| 12. Abdul Hamid Khan Sahib Bahadur. | 36. " C. Gopala Menon. |
| 13. Mr. K. V. R. Swami | 37. " M. A. Manickavelu Nayakar. |
| 14. " K. P. V. S. Muhammad Meera Ravuttar. | 38. " B. Ramachandra Reddi. |
| 15. " D. Narayana Raju. | 39. Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. Patro. |
| 16. " K. Uppi Sahib. | 40. Diwan Bahadur M. Krishnan Nayar. |
| 17. " C. Marudavanam Pillai. | 41. Rao Sahib S. Ellappa Chettiyar. |
| 18. " J. A. Saldanha. | 42. Diwan Bahadur P. C. Ethirajulu Nayudu. |
| 19. " C. Obi Reddi. | 43. Khadir Muhi-ud-din Sahib Bahadur. |
| 20. " A. Parasurama Rao. | 44. Rao Bahadur B. Muniswami Nayudu. |
| 21. " U. Ramaswami Ayyar. | 45. Mr. K. Ramachandra Padayachi. |
| 22. " C. Ramasomayajulu. | 46. " K. Sarabhn Reddi. |
| 23. " P. Bakthavathsalu Nayudu. | 47. Rao Bahadur K. Sitarama Reddi. |
| 24. " A. Kaleswara Rao. | 48. Mr. J. Kuppuswami. |

Noes—51.

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|--|--|
| 1. The hon. Sir C. P. Ramaswami Ayyar. | 26. Subador-Major S. A. Nanjappa Bahadur. |
| 2. " Mr. N. E. Marjoribanks. | 27. Mr. Al. Ar. Narayanan Chettiyar. |
| 3. " Mr. T. E. Moir. | 28. Rao Bahadur O. M. Narayanan Nambudripad. |
| 4. " Khan Bahadur Muhammad Usman Sahib Bahadur. | 29. Mr. T. M. Narayanaswami Pillai. |
| 5. " Dr. P. Subbarayan. | 30. " C. R. Parthasarathi Ayyangar. |
| 6. " Mr. A. Ranganatha Mudaliyar. | 31. " N. Siva Raj. |
| 7. Mrs. S. Muthulakshmi Reddi. | 32. " V. Gangadhar Siva. |
| 8. Mr. J. F. Hall. | 33. " W. P. A. Soundarapandia Nadar. |
| 9. " P. L. Moore. | 34. " T. O. Srinivasa Ayyangar. |
| 10. " G. T. Boag. | 35. " S. Subrahmanya Mooppanar. |
| 11. " H. Tireman. | 36. " Chavadi K. Subrahmanya Pillai. |
| 12. " S. H. Slater. | 37. " D. Thomas. |
| 13. " V. Pandrang Row. | 38. " S. Venkayya. |
| 14. " C. B. Cotterell. | 39. " K. R. Venkatarama Ayyar. |
| 15. Khan Bahadur Muhammad Bazi-ul-lah Sahib Bahadur. | 40. " K. Kriehnan. |
| 16. Abbas Ali Khan Sahib Bahadur. | 41. The Zamindar of Gollapalli. |
| 17. Mr. D. Appavu Chettiyar. | 42. Mr. G. R. Premayya. |
| 18. " H. Ari Gowder. | 43. Syed Tajuddin Sahib Bahadur. |
| 19. " A. B. Shetty. | 44. Mr. A. S. Sahajanandaswami. |
| 20. " H. Bheemayya. | 45. Rao Sahib R. Srinivasan. |
| 21. Rai Sahib M. Hampayya. | 46. Mr. C. R. T. Congreve. |
| 22. Mr. V. Ch. John. | 47. " C. E. Wood. |
| 23. Mahmud Schammad Sahib Bahadur. | 48. " J. M. Smith. |
| 24. Mr. Muppil Nayar of Kavalappara. | 49. Sir Alexander MacDougall. |
| 25. " R. Nagan Gowda. | 50. Rao Sahib L. C. Guruswami. |
| | 51. Mr. V. I. Muniswami Pillai. |

48 voted for and 51 against. The motion was lost.

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Demand IV was then put to the House and declared carried. A poll was demanded by Mr. G. Harisarvottama Rao which was taken with the following result :—

Ayes—60.

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|--|--|
| 1. The hon. Sir C. P. Ramaswami Ayyar. | 30. Mr T. M. Narayanaswami Pillai. |
| 2. " Mr. N. E. Marjoribanks. | 31. " C. R. Parthasarathi Ayyangar. |
| 3. " Khan Bahadur Muhammad Usman Sahib Bahadur. | 32. " N. Siva Raj. |
| 4. " Mr. T. E. Moir. | 33. " V. Gangadhara Siva. |
| 5. " Dr. P. Subbarayan. | 34. " W. P. A. Soundarapandia Nadar. |
| 6. " Mr. A. Ranganatha Mudaliyar. | 35. " T. C. Srinivasa Ayyangar. |
| 7. " Diwan Bahadur R.N. Arogyaswami Mudaliyar. | 36. " S. Subrahmanya Mooppanar. |
| 8. Mrs. Muthulakshmi Reddi. | 37. " Chavadi K. Subrahmanya Pillai. |
| 9. Mr. J. F. Hall. | 38. " D. Thomas. |
| 10. " P. L. Moore. | 39. " S. V. Vanavudia Goundar. |
| 11. " H. Tireman. | 40. " S. Venkayya. |
| 12. " G. T. Boag. | 41. " K. R. Venkatarama Ayyar. |
| 13. " V. Pandrang Row. | 42. " K. Krishnan. |
| 14. " S. H. Slater. | 43. The Zamindar of Gollapalli. |
| 15. " C. B. Cotterell. | 44. Mr. G. R. Premayya. |
| 16. Khan Bahadur Muhammad Bazl-ul-lah Sahib Bahadur. | 45. Syed Tajuddin Sahib Bahadur. |
| 17. The Zamindar of Seithur. | 46. Mr. A. Sahajanandaswami. |
| 18. Abbas Ali Khan Sahib Bahadur. | 47. Rao Sahib K. Srinivasan. |
| 19. Mr. D. Appavu Chettiyar. | 48. Mr. C. R. T. Congreve. |
| 20. " H. Ari Gowder. | 49. Sir Alexander MacDougall. |
| 21. " A. B. Shetty. | 50. Mr. J. M. Smith. |
| 22. " J. Ebeemayya. | 51. " C. E. Wood. |
| 23. Rai Sahib M. Hampayya. | 52. " V. I. Munsawami Pillai. |
| 24. Mr. V. Ch. John. | 53. Rao Sahib L. C. Guruswami. |
| 25. Mahmud Sahammad Sahib Bahadur. | 54. Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. Patro. |
| 26. Mr. Muppil Nayar of Kavalappara. | 55. Diwan Bahadur M. Krishnan Nayar. |
| 27. Subadar Major S. A. Nanjappa Bahadur. | 56. Rao Sahib S. Ellappa Chettiyar. |
| 28. Mr. Al. Ar. Narayanan Chettiyar. | 57. Diwan Bahadur P. C. Ethirajulu Nayudu. |
| 29. Rao Bahadur O. M. Narayanan Nambudripad. | 58. Syed Kadir Mohi-ud-din Sahib Bahadur. |
| | 59. Mr. K. Sarabha Reddi. |
| | 60. Rao Bahadur K. Sitarama Reddi. |

Noes—33.

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|--|------------------------------------|
| 1. Mr. Sami Venkatachalam Chetti. | 17. Mr. C. Obi Reddi. |
| 2. " S. Satyamurti. | 18. " A. Parasurama Rao. |
| 3. " C. V. Venkataramana Ayyangar. | 19. " U. Ramaswami Ayyar. |
| 4. " T. Adinarayana Chetti. | 20. " C. Ramasomayajulu. |
| 5. " P. Anjaneyulu. | 21. " P. Bakthavathsalu Nayudu. |
| 6. " S. Muttayya Mudaliyar. | 22. Friman Biswanath Das Mahasayo. |
| 7. " K. Koti Reddi. | 23. Mr. A. Kaleswara Rao. |
| 8. " C. S. Govindaraja Mudaliyar. | 24. " B. Srinivasa Ayyangar. |
| 9. " G. Harisarvottama Rao. | 25. Syed Ibrahim Sahib Bahadur. |
| 10. " C. Muthuranga Mudaliyar. | 26. Mr. K. Sivasubrahmanya Ayyar. |
| 11. Abdul Hamid Khan Sahib Bahadur. | 27. " K. Kameswara Rao Nayudu. |
| 12. Mr. K. P. V. S. Muhammad Meera Ravuttar. | 28. " L. K. Tulasiram. |
| 13. " D. Narayana Raju. | 29. " K. R. Karant. |
| 14. " K. Uppi Sahib. | 30. " K. Krishnaswami Nayskar. |
| 15. " J. A. Saldanha. | 31. " K. Madhavan Nayar. |
| 16. " C. Marudavanam Pillai. | 32. " C. Venkatarangam Nayudu. |
| | 33. " B. Venkataratnam. |

Ayes 60 and Noes 33.

The demand was carried and the grant was made.

The Council then adjourned for lunch at 1-45 p.m.

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After Lunch (2-45 p.m.).

DEMAND V--REGISTRATION

The hon. Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—" Sir, on the recommendation of His Excellency the Governor I move—

'that Government be granted a sum not exceeding 26.48 lakhs for Registration'."

* Mr. SAMI VENKATACHALAM CHETTI :—" Sir, no one is more fully aware of the circumstances under which the registration fees were enhanced than the hon. the Minister for Development. He himself fought for the reduction of these fees while he was on this side of the House. Considering the fact that the fees were raised in order to meet a deficit budget and that we are now happily faced with a surplus budget it is necessary that the fees are reduced. The hon. Minister must translate his promise into action. ('Hear, hear.') I may point out that this department which was intended to be a service department has now become a revenue yielding department. As much as a sum of Rs. 15 lakhs is diverted into the general funds for expenditure upon other heads. Probably this accounts for the increase of expenditure under the Transferred departments. If this amount is taken away the amount that the Transferred half is getting from the Reserved half would considerably be diminished. With these few words I move—

'that the allotment of Rs. 30,400 for pay of officers be reduced by Rs. 100.'

"I commend the motion for the acceptance of the House."

* Diwan Bahadur M. KRISHNAN NAYAR :—" Sir, all the arguments that were advanced yesterday regarding the necessity for reducing the stamp duties and the court fees apply to this case also. The registration fees were raised in 1922 in order to cover the deficit. The understanding at that time was that the fees should be reduced when a favourable opportunity presented itself. The hon. Mr. A. Ranganatha Mudaliyar, the Minister in charge of this department, was always—I suppose he has not ceased to be so now—an ardent advocate of the rights of the people, particularly of the poor people. I am sure the same spirit that animated him when he was on the Opposition benches animates him still. He should be ready to accept this motion for the reduction of the registration fees. I hope my friend will see the need for accepting this proposition. If he does so, neither my Swarajist friends who moved this motion nor we on this side of the House shall press the motion."

* The hon. Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—" Sir, the agenda before the House shows that as many as 25 hon. Members have given notice of a motion for the reduction of the registration fees. That is a fact which is bound to be taken note of and due weight attached to it. My hon. Friends Messrs. Sami Venkatachalam Chetti and Krishnan Nayar referred to me personally. I may say that I am not going to change opinions in order to suit conveniences. ('Hear, hear.') What I have said, I hope I shall stand by; and if I have made a mistake in the past I shall candidly admit that. At present I am considering the question of how far the fees on the various kinds of documents may be reduced. But there is another aspect of the matter which I am bound to bear in mind. In the course of my tours I found that while there are ever so many sub-registration offices in some districts, in others there are really very few compared with their extent or their

[Mr. A. Ranganatha Mudaliyar] [17th March 1927]

population. I think the House will forgive me if I say that a part of the amount which is shown as savings under this head should be utilized in opening more registration offices in those parts. So that the position is this. While I recognize the validity of the claim behind this motion, I am sorry I am not able to say at once and categorically that I shall be able to reduce the registration fees on every class of documents for which the fees have been raised. I may assure the House that I shall certainly do all that is possible for me to bring about reduction in such cases as are practicable."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT:—"Does the hon. Member press his motion?"

* Mr. SAMI VENKATACHALAM CHETTI:—"I do not press it, Sir."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT:—"Has the hon. Member leave of the House to withdraw the motion?"

* Diwan Bahadur M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—"I object, Sir."

(The debate continued.)

* Mr. J. A. SALDANHA:—"Mr. President, Sir, after seeing the way in which the hon. Ministers and their party have been voting for the last two days, I have no faith in their earnestness to reduce the taxation. I am sure their attempts—if there are any—will be checked by the Reserved half. I do not know what the hon. Minister for Registration will do against the attitude of the Finance Department. In such cases the Transferred half have very little liberty of action. Any reduction of fees either by legislation or by rules made by the Government will have to be approved by the Finance Department in the Reserved half. We saw this morning in their vote on the Forests Demand how the Ministerialist party is tied down to the car of the Reserved half and dragged by it. Under the circumstances how can we hope for any small reduction in the registration fees?"

"Since the rate of registration fees is very high, people resort to many evasive tricks to avoid registration. Many transactions are not evidenced by documents at all on account of the high registration fees. The condition of the poor does not at all appeal to the Treasury Bench, much less to the Finance Department. Also from the way in which the Ministerialist party has been voting in this Council, I doubt very much whether they will do anything to ameliorate the condition of the poor. My pessimism is based on hard facts. May I warn them, that if the Ministers continue this policy they will have to remember that they cannot go on trying the patience of the most powerful party in this Council representing a large majority of the people in this country?"

* Mr. MAHMUD SCHAMNAD SAHIB:—"Sir, I have also tabled a motion for the reduction of Rs. 100. My object in tabling the motion . . ."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT:—"The hon. Member has to speak on this motion. If he has tabled another motion with a different object he will have to move it later on."

* Mr. MAHMUD SCHAMNAD SAHIB:—"I shall speak on this motion, Sir. I want to bring to the notice of the Government that before the registration fees were raised, fees for attendance of the registration officers at the residence of goshas or sick persons or other persons who are by circumstances unable to go to the registration offices were only Rs. 10. Now attendance fees have been increased to Rs. 20. This hits very hard the

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poor goasha ladies, etc., most of whom are very poor. It is only the poor people who resort to borrowing often. Let us take the case of a document for Rs. 50 which has to be registered. Rupees 20 has to be paid for attendance of the Registrar, Rs. 5 or so for conveyance charges, etc., and something more by way of bakshis. These would on the whole come to Rs. 30, leaving only Rs. 20 for the borrower. When the registration fees were raised, it was said that as soon as circumstances improved that might be reduced. It has however been allowed to continue so long. Now that there is a good opportunity in the surplus budget I urge that the reduction of registration fees be seriously considered. I have full confidence that the hon. Minister in charge will take proper steps to mend matters.

"The enhancement of the fees generally has been falling very heavily on the poor people. If they want to register leases or small mortgage deeds, they have to spend disproportionately for registration fees, etc. After all they get very little. This department must not be made to work as an earning department, but only as a serving department. Similar arguments were advanced in previous years by Rao Bahadur Narasimha Raju who was then the Leader of the Opposition, in the Council, I think, and the present Minister in charge also, pleaded for the reduction of these registration expenses, etc. 3 p.m.

"Now, from the Budget estimates we see that the income in 1926-27 was Rs. 39 and odd lakhs and the expenditure Rs. 25 and odd lakhs; so we have a saving of Rs. 14 lakhs and odd. I think, this surplus will not be merged in the general revenues; but after spending for the improvement of the department, the rest will be utilized for reducing the fees.

"Another thing I wish to bring to the notice of Government is that this department is one of the most corrupt departments that I have seen. This is the second, perhaps, the first being the Police department . . . (Laughter.) With these words, I support the motion."

* MR. K. SARABHA REDDI :—"The fundamental purpose for which the Registration department exists and should exist is to facilitate the securing of justice in judicial courts. Nowadays justice under the existing system is very costly, and it is beyond the reach of a poor man to seek justice in any court for any wrong done to him. If the already heavy burden of taxation should increase in the shape of registration fees, the poor can have no place where to seek justice. For some administrative expediency the registration fee has been enhanced and I think it should be immediately reduced. Another point which I wish to bring to the notice of Government is this. Though the Ceded districts are the most backward districts when we ask for anything for the Ceded districts, say, for the improvement of irrigation and other things we are never given anything. At least in the Registration department, a department where service does not require any technical skill or qualification, the scope for appointing Ceded districts men may be made wider. In making appointments, I hope the hon. Minister"

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—"The point under discussion is the reduction of the registration fees and not the recruitment to the Registration department. The hon. Member is requested to confine his remarks to the reduction of the registration fees."

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* Mr. K. SARABHA REDDI:—"The appointment of Ceded districts men in Ceded districts could minimize the cost."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT:—"I hope the hon. Member will not persist in his remarks about recruitment."

* Mr. K. SARABHA REDDI:—"In the Ceded districts, at least for sympathy's sake, the reduction of registration fees may be tried as an experiment."

* Mr. S. ARPUDASWAMI UDAYAR:—"Mr. President, Sir, there is one aspect of the question which I would like to emphasize. I think all the enhanced revenue resulting from the increase of registration fees, has been diverted to purposes altogether unconnected with the Registration department. From the words which fell from the hon. the Minister in charge of the department it is quite clear that even indirect relief is not afforded. First, there is no direct relief, and direct relief can be afforded only by a substantial reduction in the registration fees. In default of this direct relief, it is but proper that the public affected by this increase should be afforded at least some indirect relief, in the shape of new sub-registrars' offices opened in places which are far remote from the habitations of people in urban areas and of people in villages who generally resort to such offices, or at least in the shape of a slight increase in the salary of the low-paid clerks of the department. The situation reminds me of the story of an Irish man and his cow. When a simple Irish rustic was driving a fat cow in one of the streets of Dublin, a strong man like my hon. Friend the University Member confronted him saying that the cow was his, so that there was a tug-of-war. The first man caught hold of the cow by its horns and the second by its tail. Then came a Scotchman, who said that the cow was his, and without making any fuss he quietly milked the cow and went his way. So, Sir, the application is very simple. Here, you have the Registration department and my hon. Friend the Minister for Development claiming a share of its revenues, in order to open some sub-registrars' offices and better the status of the low-paid establishment clamouring for some increase. On the other hand, you have the public who have to pay the piper, crying for a return to the old rates. Well, these two parties are trying each to have its own share. It is certainly unfair on the part of my Friend the hon. Mr. Boag and his department to step in and quietly divert all the revenues for other and totally unconnected purposes. It is but fair that some relief should be afforded to those who are entitled to it, that at least some indirect relief should be afforded them. For this reason, Sir, I support the motion."

* Mr. L. K. TULASIRAM:—"Mr. President, in rising to support the proposed reduction of the registration fees, the registration fee that works really great hardship is the fee for private attendance of registrars. The right of private attendance of the sub-registrars is claimed only in two or three cases. When a man is in his sick-bed or death-bed, when he is not able to move out of his house, then he has recourse to the attendance of the sub-registrar. Or a widow who is not accustomed to appear in public or who has lost her husband only recently and had her hairs cut off, and who may not go with her disfigured head to the sub-registrar's office seeks the private attendance of the sub-registrar. If the sub-registrar claims Rs 20 from the new widow or from the man who is going to expire in a moment and go to the other world, then I would say

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that this demand by the Government is tyrannical. Then, Sir, the Nanguneri Jeer, who is living in the cloisters of his matam secures the services of a sub-registrar who is a tenant next door. The sub-registrar would not go unless he is paid Rs. 20, and travelling allowance for one mile, though the distance from the matam of the Jeer to the residence of the sub-registrar is not even 21 feet. I quote these instances, because I have personal knowledge of those instances and I only say, Sir, that these things were really brought to the notice of Government from the time of the hon. Mr. Rama Ayyangar, S. Srinivasaraghava Ayyangar, Mr. Rajaratna Mudaliyar, Mr. R. V. Srinivasa Ayyar and a host of Inspectors-General of Registration. Sir, the mistake lies in switching off people who have not read the Registration Act, and who are not acquainted with sections 17 and 18 of the Act. Really, Sir, for a probationer to get himself acquainted with all the latest rules, it takes 18 months, and with all that, he is not perfect. Sometimes, they will classify cases of documents falling under section 17 (a) and (b), under section 18 (c) and (d). The remedy lies in reducing the registration fees. Fees must be brought down in all cases where the amount does not exceed Rs. 5,000. And, who is the ultimate man that pays the registration fees? If a marriage is to be performed in a poor man's house, he requires money from the sowcar and the sowcar says 'you will pay the expenses of the stamp, you will bear the registration fees and also the eluttukkooli (writing charges) to be paid to the document writer' and over and above all that, the mamul to be paid to the daffadar and all the servants from top to bottom at the rate of so many annas per document. Sir, if you go deep into the matter, you will find that this is not a simple ordinary affair. If the registration fee is increased, the mamuls also increase *pro rata*. Sir, it is only the increase of registration fees that I am complaining of. If I have to pay Rs. 20 as registration fees, I shall have to shell out 20 annas. Therefore I appeal to the hon. the Minister for Development, because Registration is not really a part of Development, but so many things are clubbed together in Development. What is the effect of this registration? Is it more than what we register in the post office? It is only a commercial department and a commercial department should not become a revenue earning department: that is the protest, and the complaint is that the registration fees should be brought down to that level when a man should not be afraid of going to the Registration office for fear of fees. He is afraid not only of the registration officer, but first of all the belted knight, whose palm has to be greased before he is allowed to be in the presence of the registrar. No doubt I have painted a dark picture, but it is not the blackest picture I have drawn, and if the hon. Minister goes to the Madura and Tinnevely districts, and Malabar district that has more registration offices in the whole presidency than any other district, you will find that my picture is neither sadder nor blacker. With these words, I request that the Minister will earn the gratitude of the people if the registration fees are brought down not to the level of 1920 but to the level of 1901 when these fees deserved to be imposed."

* Mr. K. MADHAVAN NAYAR :—" I would have certainly not questioned the assurance given by the hon. Minister for Development, but for the fact that I know fully well and I realize that on the Treasury Bench he is absolutely powerless.

[Mr. K. Madhavan Nayar]

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"He has begun to see difficulties even now, and as days go on, and as months pass on, he will see that the difficulties will only increase and that it will be absolutely impossible for him to do anything in the matter of the reduction of registration fees or in any other matter. Well, Sir, the fault lies not with the Minister, not with Mr. Ranganatha Mudaliyar whose sincerity nobody will question, but the fault lies with that Treasury Bench to which if any person goes he undergoes a radical and miraculous change. (Hear, hear.) It reminds me, Sir, of the story in our Puranas of a certain region which came under the curse of Parvati, a curse that if any male inadvertently or unconsciously enters that region, he is suddenly transformed into a woman (Laughter). In this case it is not a case of transformation of sex; but it is a case where persons that enter the Treasury Bench, while they retain their sex and gender, become converted all the same into persons totally different from what they were before that day. I may give the example of the hon. the Leader of this House in this matter. I may further say this. I am sure that so long as this acrimonious fight goes on in this Council between our leaders and the leaders of the Justice party, and the members of the Independent party rise like a wooden block to support every measure on behalf of the Government, the story of the monkey and the cat will be repeated. It is also to sound this note of warning, it is because I am mortified by this sickening sight that I have risen today, and I most emphatically say, Sir, that some of us, certainly do not approve of this policy of hon. Members in indulging in such attacks."

* Sriman BISWANATH DAS Mahasaya:—"Sir, I join in the chorus of support which is given to the motion for reduction of Rs. 100. In doing so, I have to place before the hon. Members of this House that Madras, this poor province, pays the highest registration fees in the whole of India. Just to bring home to the hon. Members of this House the truth of the above statement I will read certain figures which will speak for themselves. Sir, Bengal with a population more than that of Madras and with an enhanced registration fee gets only 39 lakhs and spends only 19 lakhs. Then comes United Provinces. United Provinces gets an income of 14 lakhs and spends about 4.73 lakhs. Then comes Bombay which gets about 18 lakhs and spends about 7.2 lakhs. Then comes the Punjab. It gets 8.95 lakhs and spends over a lakh. From the figures of other provinces also (which I have got with me), hon. Members will see that Madras is the most heavily and highly taxed province so far as registration fees are concerned. Not only this, it keeps up this proportion also in matters of expenditure; while other provinces spend about 50 per cent utmost even including Bengal, Madras spends about 25.74 lakhs of rupees out of Rs. 39.69 lakhs, that is, about 70 per cent of the total income under this head. So, Sir, we have to see here two factors. One factor is that it taxes most and the second is that it proportionately spends more. And the most unfortunate thing is that all this taxation has been levied on the mere authority of the executive. Time after time I have brought this question to the notice of this hon. House with a view to put an end to it. Well, Sir, the hon. Sir A. P. Patro from his seat on the Treasury Bench refused to yield to this demand. He said that it refers to an ideal state of things. I was looking at him when he was voting on the question regarding the codification of land revenue system where the same issue was voted upon and I found that he was voting against the Government. What I would urge on the hon. Members of this House is that we must hereafter make it a point to resist all attempts of

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the executive to raise taxation on their own initiative without coming to the legislature. If any section of this hon. House refuses to join in the chorus of our opposition, it will be doing injustice to itself, to the country and to the democracy to which we are all wedded.

"And then, Sir, I have to thank the hon. Mr. Ranganatha Mudaliyar to-day for the reply he has given. After having three sad experiences in this House regarding reduction of registration fees, I must frankly confess that I have got to-day a reply which I can certainly call sympathetic. And since I see that he has come to sit only for a few months on the Treasury Bench, and since I see and know that he has not had the opportunity which a Minister ought to have and also time enough to initiate his own views on the matter, I think I could trust him that he would do something. With this warning, Sir, that if he fails to do what he has said, and if he proposes to go back on the pledges that he has given on the floor of this House to-day, he will share the very fate which Sir A. P. Patro and the Raja of Panagal are sharing to-day. (Hear, hear.) Secondly, Sir, I have to bring to his notice that the Registration department may rather be called an Elections department. I know it for certain in my district and I have brought the fact to the notice of the Government. I know the hon. the President with his judicious eye might call me down to my seat if I bring in a question which is not stated here or relevant to this matter. But I do deliberately bring it in here because that raises the question of the cost of running on the Department of Registration. These people, without attending to their legitimate duties, were all along going on with their election duty. I deliberately say it because I approached the Government to put an end to this nefarious business during the elections."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT:—"Order, order. If the hon. Member wants to refer to the activities of the various departments regarding elections, he will have ample opportunity at the time the General Administration demands come up for discussion. That will be the proper occasion, but this is not the occasion to refer to that subject."

* Sriman BISWANATH DAS Mahasayo:—"All right, Sir, I bow to your ruling. Having said so much about the activities of the Registration department, I think I would join with my hon. Friends who said something about the corruption which is now prevailing in the department. And I would request my hon. Friend the Minister to pay his attention to that aspect of the matter also."

* Rao Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU:—"Sir, I may first say that there has been an improvement from yesterday to to-day. (A voice: Compared with to day, to-morrow will be better.) It ought to be going on improving with the patronage from the opposite side which the Ministry is receiving. I am glad, Sir, that my hon. Friend Mr. Ranganatha Mudaliyar said that the opinions he once formed he would not easily change, and if so, he would expressly say so. Sir, it was only last year and the year before that he said that the registration charges could be cut down. Now, I ask, Sir, in view of the release of contributions and in view of the surplus budget, whether apart from all other considerations as to whether more sub-registrars' offices or more officers are necessary, he does not consider it high time that this addition of three lakhs of rupees which has been raised during 1921-26 should be given up immediately? Has he

[Mr. B. Muniswami Nayudu] [17th March 1927]

changed his mind? If at a time of stress, at a time when we had deficit budgets he was loud in saying that this tax must be reduced, has he changed his mind now when we have no deficit budget but have certainly a more prosperous budget? What is it that he says now? He finds that there are a number of places without sub-registrars' offices, and therefore he considers that to be the first charge. And after that is provided for, if in the happy family he should find that there is sufficient money to be provided for this, then he would consider, with the respect due to the House, as to the reduction of registration charges. Now, Sir, the receipts come to about Rs. 39 lakhs and the expenditure is Rs. 26 lakhs. There is thus a clear surplus of Rs. 13 lakhs. Sir, what we want is a statement that at any rate he will make it his first consideration to reduce the charges at least to the extent of 3 lakhs. That will do for us. Does he think that all this surplus of 13 lakhs which is the surplus of receipts over expenditure will be taken up in establishing some new registration offices? I submit it is not really doing justice to the demand made by the House. Of course, opinions once expressed may not be easily changed by the hon. Minister. But what about his opinion expressed with regard to excise that within twenty years or ten years there must be total prohibition. Has he changed that opinion also? Of course the hon. Minister is in the convenient position of not being in charge of Excise, but whether he will change his mind hereafter remains to be seen. But I may say that, so far as the answer given by the hon. Minister on this matter of registration charges is concerned, it is certainly unsatisfactory. I think, Sir, that with a surplus of 13 lakhs in the Registration department, even after providing for all new registration offices, it will certainly be possible if he really means business to reduce the charges. With these words, I support the motion."

* Mr. R. SRINIVASA AYYANGAR :—" Mr. President, Sir, from the papers supplied to us we find that the income, so far as this department is concerned, has been steadily increasing with the result that year in and year out we find the expenditure to be less than the income by several lakhs. I am sorry I have to differ from my hon. Friend Mr. Saldanha when he began to question the sincerity of the statement made by the Minister for Development. But notwithstanding the fact that the Minister is quite new to the office, may I state that he is not quite new to it but he fully appreciates the difficulties which we have placed before him in the direction of cutting down substantially the registration fees and charges. I have no necessity to defend the hon. Minister at all, for I know that in fact the Minister needs no defence at my hands. He is quite capable of defending himself. But judging from the statements made, I have not the slightest doubt that if necessary he will rise to the full height of the occasion and will rise up in arms against the hon. the Finance Member if he were to place any obstacles in the way of registration charges being reduced substantially, in order to give some amount of relief to the poor people who resort to these offices. The mistake lay in allowing the executive on their own initiative to straight away raise the registration charges as and when it pleased them instead of bringing up the matter before the Legislative Council for sanction. For, in pursuance of the power vested in the Local Government under some section of the Registration Act—section 80 or 81 I think—the Local Government in a summary and irresponsible fashion raised the registration fees one fine morning without taking the public into their confidence or giving sufficient time for public opinion to form and assert

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itself. That is a bad beginning and that is responsible, if I may say so, for the Government acting in this manner. I find from the budget that provision is made for the opening of seven sub-registry offices. That is undoubtedly a step in the right direction. For 1927-28 there would be a surplus of about 13 lakhs. I have not the slightest doubt that the Minister will exert himself in the direction already pointed out by my hon. Friend from Madura and other speakers who said that registration fees should be reduced as much as possible. By saying 'as much as possible' I have no desire to leave any distinction at all to the hon. the Minister for Development. I shall be glad if he reduces the charges at least to the former level. In any attempt that he may make in this direction, I do not think he will be handicapped, for the department itself is a paying department and there is absolutely no likelihood of the department working at a deficit or at a loss in the event of his accepting our suggestion in favour of reduction.

"There is no reason as to why we should not believe the statement that he has made on the floor of the House that he will give the matter the most careful and anxious consideration. My hon. Friend from Chittoor stated that the Minister fought for the poor in the days of financial stringency, and I have no doubt that in the days of prosperity he will stand by the poor and carry out what he actually stated. There is absolutely no reason to doubt the sincerity of his statement."

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p.m.

* Mr. C. R. PARTHASARATHI AYYANGAR :—"Sir, the hon. Minister suggested that he had to open several new offices so that he might get an increased revenue and therefore it is impossible to reduce the amount. My own individual opinion in the matter is that in the matter of registration fees as in the matter of court-fees it is high time that we make an experiment. The greater the fees charged the lesser the income. We know as a matter of fact that in many places where courts are established, if courts are nearer to the places where the village population are found, the institution and the income is higher. I want to suggest that in all places where litigation is rife, it is better to open new sub-registrars' offices to realize a larger income. If you have a still lower rate than at present you will get a larger scale. Why not try the experiment? At the same time you can make another experiment. With one sub-registrar's office with an establishment for keeping records, and giving copies, you can increase the number of sub-registrars, without much paraphernalia. Increasing the number of sub-registrars, I may say, we may be able to show an increased income and also the scale of fees may be lower. That is how I understood the hon. the Minister. Some of our friends are disgusted with the way in which some, whom they expected to vote for them, are voting to the contrary. I may remind our friends on this question that we are now in a stage where we are going to make an experiment to increase the sub-registrars and find out good men in each area who will carry out your policy, those who will respond to the great ideals and those who will carry out your fundamental ideas. It was stated that the statement made by the hon. Minister cannot be true; he was holding a different opinion in the past. Why in the name of common sense should we say that we ought to follow one example? Why not try a new experiment and try to convert the other half to our own view? We are here, and if you only loyally support the hon. Minister we are bound to succeed and when an hon. Minister, whom, an hon. Friend from the Justice party described as a man with ideals is there, I dare say we can succeed."

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* Mr. D. NARAYANA RAJU :—“ Mr. President, Sir, the case for reducing the general registration fees has been dealt with by the previous speakers and I do not wish to traverse the same ground over again. The need for reducing the special fee known as the search fee is particularly great. The search fee charged in the Registration department is heavy and quite unreasonable. The amount derived by the Government in the shape of search fees is no small amount. In 1925-26 it amounted to Rs. 5,66,000, in 1926-27 the amount collected under this head is Rs. 5,85,000, and the amount budgeted for in 1927-28 is 6 lakhs. So the amount collected in the name of search fees is considerable. The most unreasonable part of the business is this. Even in cases of applications where the date and the number of the document are given the search fee is charged. In such cases some fee for copying may be charged. In these cases where reference is given the search fee is quite unjustifiable. I hope the Government will try to abolish this unjustifiable practice.”

* The hon. Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—“ Sir, I have listened very carefully to the many speeches that have been made on this motion—some of them with grateful feelings and others with some painful feeling. Sir, my hon. Friend Mr. Saldanha doubted whether or not I meant what I said from my place here. I am sure he did not mean to insinuate any want of rectitude on my part or that I gave expression to sentiments which I had already resolved upon not to translate into practice. I thought he and I had worked together sufficiently long to make me think that he at least, if not others, had understood me better than he made me appear to think to-day. Sir, my Friend Mr. Muniswami Nayudu referred in the same way as he did yesterday in terms which I hope later on at least he will regret for having used. He referred, Sir, to us here as being under the patronage of the members opposite. I do not want to descend to the level which others have descended or might descend to. I only hope that my hon. Friend Mr. Muniswami Nayudu will try to suspend his judgment, if it is possible for him to do so, and judge us by our conduct and not by his imaginary conceptions of us.

“ Sir, my Friend Mr. Schannad referred to the fees that are charged for attendance of the Registrar more especially to fees charged in the case of pardanashin ladies who have to pay the same fees as men are obliged. I recognize the fact that among them there are many poor people to whom the payment of Rs. 20 is heavy. I would only point out that even as the rules now stand the Registrar has the discretion to remit these fees in the case of people who are unable to pay. I know this discretion has not been used widely and I am prepared to advise the officers concerned that this discretion is meant to be exercised and not altogether to be ignored practically. Mr. Arpudaswami Udayar referred to the various forms of relief that might be adopted—direct and indirect. May I remind him, Sir, that I have covered the ground already? My Friend Mr. Madhavan Nayar, though he did not doubt what I said, thought that it was impossible for me to do what I said. If I shared his views I should certainly be not away from him. I felt, even as a member in the Opposition when no power was vested in me, that I could urge and get the Government to do something, and I feel that with increased opportunities I may be able to do a little more than what I could otherwise do. If I am mistaken he may claim me once again on his side. (Hear, hear) I am grateful, Sir, to the many friends on different sides of the House for their kindness to admit at least my sincerity, if not my capacity, to

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do the things that I have honestly promised to try to do. I do hope, Sir, that this House will pass the demand which I have moved without any reduction whatever."

The motion was put and declared lost.

A poll was then taken with the following result:—

Ayes.

3-45
p.m.

- | | |
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| 1. Mr. B. Ramachandra Reddi. | 9. Rao Sahib S. Ellappa Chettiyar. |
| 2. Rao Bahadur C. S. Ratnasabapati Mudaliyar. | 10. Diwan Bahadur S. Kumaraswami Reddiyar. |
| 3. The Raja of Panagal. | 11. Rao Bahadur B. Muniswami Nayudu. |
| 4. Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. Patro. | 12. Mr. K. Ramachandra Padayachi. |
| 5. Diwan Bahadur M. Krishnan Nayar. | 13. " K. Sarabha Reddi. |
| 6. Mr. P. T. Rajan. | 14. Rao Bahadur K. Sitarama Reddi. |
| 7. " T. K. Chidambaranatha Mudaliyar. | 15. The Zamindar of Mirzapuram. |
| 8. " S. N. Dorai Raja. | |

Noes.

- | | |
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| 1. The hon. Sir C. P. Ramaswami Ayyar. | 24. Mr. Mahmud Schannad Sahib. |
| 2. " Mr. N. E. Marjoribanks. | 25. " Muppi Nayar of Kavalappara. |
| 3. " Khan Bahadur Muhammad Usman Sahib Bahadur. | 26. " R. Nagan Gowda. |
| 4. " Mr. T. E. Moir. | 27. Subadar-Major S. A. Nanjappa Bahadur. |
| 5. " Diwan Bahadur R. N. Arogyaswami Mudaliyar. | 28. Mr. T. M. Narayanaswami Pillai. |
| 6. " Mr. A. Ranganatha Mudaliyar. | 29. " C. R. Parthasarathi Ayyangar. |
| 7. " Dr. P. Subbarayan. | 30. " Ramanath Goenka. |
| 8. Mr. J. F. Hall. | 31. " N. Siva Raj. |
| 9. " P. L. Moore. | 32. " M. V. Gangadhara Siva. |
| 10. " H. Tireman. | 33. " W. P. A. Soundarapandiya Nadar. |
| 11. " G. T. Boag. | 34. " T. C. Srinivasa Ayyangar. |
| 12. " V. Pandrang Row. | 35. " S. Subramaniya Moopanar. |
| 13. " S. H. Slater. | 36. " Chavadi K. Subramaniya Pillai. |
| 14. " C. B. Cotterell. | 37. " D. Thomas. |
| 15. Khan Bahadur Muhammad Bazi-ul-lah Sahib Bahadur. | 38. " S. V. Vanavudaiya Goundar. |
| 16. The Zamindar of Seithur. | 39. " S. Venkayya. |
| 17. Mr. Abbas Ali Khan Sahib. | 40. " K. R. Venkatarama Ayyar. |
| 18. " C. D. Appavu Chettiyar. | 41. " K. Krishnan. |
| 19. " H. B. Ari Gowder. | 42. Rao Sahib L. C. Guruswami. |
| 20. " A. B. Shetty. | 43. Mr. V. I. Muniswami Pillai. |
| 21. Mr. J. Bheemayya. | 44. Mr. Syed Tajuddin Sahib. |
| 22. Rai Sahib M. Hampayya. | 45. Swami A. S. Sahajanandam. |
| 23. Mr. V. Ch. John. | 46. Rao Sahib R. Srinivasan. |
| | 47. The Zamindar of Gollapalli. |
| | 48. Mr. G. R. Premayya. |
| | 49. Munshi Abdul Wahab Sahib. |

Neutral.

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| 1. Mr. Sami Venkatachalam Chetti. | 13. Mr. K. V. R. Swami. |
| 2. " S. Satyanurti. | 14. " D. Narayana Raju. |
| 3. " C. V. Venkataramana Ayyangar. | 15. " M. Narayana Rao. |
| 4. " T. Adinarayana Chettiyar. | 16. " K. Uppi Sahib. |
| 5. " P. Anjaneyulu. | 17. " J. A. Saldanha. |
| 6. " K. Koti Reddi. | 18. " C. Obi Reddi. |
| 7. " S. Muttayya Mudaliyar. | 19. " A. Parasurama Rao Pantulu. |
| 8. " P. C. Venkatapati Raju. | 20. " U. Ramaswami Ayyar. |
| 9. " P. Siva Rao. | 21. " C. Ramasomayajulu. |
| 10. " C. S. Govindaraja Mudaliyar. | 22. " Basheer Ahmad Sayed Sahib. |
| 11. " G. Harisarvottama Rao. | 23. " P. Bhaktavatsulu Nayudu. |
| 12. " C. N. Muthuranga Mudaliar. | 24. Sriman Biswanath Das Mahasayo. |

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Neutral—cont.

25. Mr. A. Kaleswara Rao.	31. Mr. K. Madhavan Nayar.
26. „ R. Srinivasa Ayyangar.	32. „ C. Venkatarangam Nayudu.
27. „ K. S. Sivasubrahmanya Ayyar.	33. „ C. Gopala Menon.
28. „ L. K. Tulasiram.	34. „ M. A. Manikkavelu Nayakar.
29. „ L. R. Karant.	35. „ S. Arpudaswami Udayar.
30. „ K. V. Krishnaswami Nayakar.	

Ayes 15. Noes 49. Neutral 35.

The motion was negatived.

* Mr. C. GOPALA MENON :—“ Mr. President, I move

‘ To reduce the allotment of Rs. 30,400 for pay of officers by Rs. 100.’

“ Sir, the object of this motion is to ascertain the views of the hon. the Minister for Development as to whether he could not see his way of appointing the senior District Registrar to the post of Inspector-General of Registration when an opportunity occurs. Sir, these District Registrars come up from the lowest rungs of the ladder to the higher posts in the department, and they know the intricacies of the department more than a person imported from any other department. In all other departments, whether Revenue or Judicial, the officers have got the chance of going up to the highest post, say, a Deputy Collector to the post of a Collector, a judicial officer like the Sub-Judge to the post of a District Judge and thence to the High Court. I, therefore, want by this token motion to ascertain the views of the hon. Minister for Development whether when a suitable opportunity occurs he will see his way to appoint one of these senior men to the post of Inspector-General of Registration.”

* The hon. Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—“ Sir, I am quite ready to give the hon. Member who has just spoken the assurance that this appointment is not ear-marked for officers of the Government Secretariat or of the Board of Revenue exclusively. There is nothing, Sir, to prevent officers of the department itself from aspiring to or being appointed to this office. We have no reason, or intention, whatsoever, to reserve the post for members of Provincial Services exclusively. But, at the same time, Sir, I appeal to the hon. Member not to press that this post should be preserved exclusively for one particular branch in the services or another, because after all, as circumstances arise, we have to choose the best person available. I hope, Sir, this assurance will satisfy my hon. Friend.”

* Mr. C. GOPALA MENON :—“ On the assurance given, I withdraw the motion.”

The motion was by leave withdrawn.

* Mr. M. A. MANIKKAVELU NAYAKAR :—“ Sir, I move

‘ To reduce the allotment of Rs. 30,400 for pay of officers by Rs. 100.’

“ This motion is tabled in order to bring to the notice of the Government the grossly inadequate representation of the backward classes in the service. Sir, I say, the educationally backward classes number at least about ten millions in this Presidency, that is, about one-fourth of the total population of the Presidency. But if you look at the percentage of the appointments held by them, I dare say it is not beyond four or five in the whole service.

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Sir, the Government may have two serious objections in order to meet this question. Firstly, Sir, they might say that there are not sufficient men available from these backward classes to fill up these posts. But I may tell them that in these days when the University is such that it manufactures graduates in tons, they will find no dearth of candidates. Secondly, Sir, they may raise the bogey theory of efficiency. Sir, great atrocities and acts of injustice are done under the shelter of this bogey theory. Sir, in the department of Registration I do not think they can indent upon this bogey of efficiency. It is mostly routine work, which any average man with the minimum qualifications will be able to do. The hon. the Minister for Development in his tourings adumbrated the policy of their party and said that communal justice will be taken proper care of and that they will see that the backward classes are properly represented in the services. It remains to be seen what that is going to be in actual practice. I may remind the hon. Minister of the adage—I think he has not forgotten it—that an ounce of practice is worth a ton of precepts and preachings and laying down of policies and programmes. Sir, since the hon. Minister has only spent four months on the Treasury Bench, I want to give him a fair trial."

* The hon. Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—" I am glad, Sir, that my hon. Friend Mr. Manikkavelu Nayakar has given me an opportunity to make a statement on this motion. He wants, Sir, that facilities should be provided for the adequate representation of the backward classes in the service of the Registration department, and I dare say in other departments as well if he could have spoken about the other departments in connexion with this motion. Now, Sir, according to the census report, there are 85 castes belonging to the depressed classes and 87 to the backward classes. If my hon. Friend wants me to furnish a statement to show the number of the people in the department who belong to these several castes respectively, I must say that I cannot commit myself immediately. He will readily recognize that it will mean an amount of labour and an expenditure of time which cannot be afforded just at present. But I may at once tell him that it will be my endeavour and of those who are working with me in this department to see as far as possible that these poor people belonging to communities which are backward and perhaps do not possess powerful advocates in or outside this Council, do not suffer for lack of advocacy, and I may tell him that there are even now twelve people who belong to the depressed classes in this department, and certainly many more people belonging to the other backward communities. So far as the appointments recently made are concerned, we have tried to follow this principle, and I hope when the final list of these appointments are analysed he will find that after all, the people responsible for this administration just now try to provide equal opportunities for all communities without attempting to benefit themselves by that policy and give relief to those who are really in need of it." (Hear, hear.)

The motion was put and negatived.

* Mr. K. V. R. SWAMI :—

4 p. m.

' To reduce the allotment of Rs. 30,400 for pay of officers by Rs. 7,800.'

" Sir, my object in tabling this motion is that higher salaries should be cut down, so that we may save something from every department. If you want to give relief to the poor it is necessary that you should cut your coat

[Mr. K. V. R. Swami]

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according to the cloth. No doubt this department is making some revenue, but there are certain officers who are paid more than what is necessary. It is not only in this department but in other departments also. With regard to office and establishment, I have given various cuts. But seeing that the hon. the Minister is feeling his way and trusting that he would go into the whole question and do whatever is necessary, I withdraw the motion."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—"The rules contemplate that Members withdrawing motions are not entitled to make speeches. I hope hon. Members will in future adhere to the principle strictly."

The motion was by leave withdrawn.

* Mr. S. ARPUDASWAMI UDAYAR :—"I move

'To reduce the allotment of Rs. 29,200 for Pay of Establishments by Rs. 100.'

"Mr. President, Sir, I think the hon. the Minister for Development will not contradict me when I say that in their desire to introduce graduates and new men into the department scant justice has been done to men who were already entertained. I know cases of men who have grown grey in service and have only a few months to retire who have not been confirmed as sub-registrars for the simple reason that when they were appointed as clerks they happened to be Matriculates. Taking into consideration the nature of the work done by the sub-registrars, which does not demand very great intellectual attainments, and also taking into consideration the fact that there is not much scope for physical vigour and energy—for most of the work has to be done in office and there is very little of field work—taking into consideration these circumstances, I do not see why such a large number of young men should have been taken as sub-registrars, selection grade registrars and probationary registrars and chances denied to men who are already acting as sub-registrars and waiting to be confirmed. It is true a certain percentage is fixed as to promotions to be given to senior men with minimum qualifications, but my contention is that it is not adequate and that a higher percentage both as to promotions and confirmations should be fixed for the benefit of those already in the department. This applies especially, Sir, to selection grade appointments. I should be satisfied with the assurance that the percentage will be fixed sufficiently high to give opportunities for men already in the service.

"With regard to the claims of Indian Christians to appointment in the selection grade and as probationary sub-registrars, I know that in connexion with the motion brought in by Mr. Saldanha the other day the House had an opportunity of discussing the claims of Indian Christians for adequate representation in one particular branch of service, and if I press the claims of Indian Christians for an adequate representation in this Registration department, it is not merely because I want to repeat here with regard to this department what was said in connexion with another department, not merely because I had to give notice of it for at the time I had no idea of what my Friend Mr. Saldanha was going to introduce in this Council, but because I want to raise a specific point in connexion with this question. An impression seems to prevail in this department that Indian Christians need

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not be recruited in batches of two or three, because that community is already over-represented. Sir, if that argument is advanced it is but fair that we should arrive at a standard of comparison.

"The proportion should be between the number of appointments and the number of graduates or qualified men available. It is not fair that the number of appointments should be in proportion to the strength of the population. If that is the case, we Indian Christians who form a very small minority in this Presidency shall have to wait a very long time. Where inequalities in the matter of representation to be removed in regard to other communities and this be made to have a just share of appointments then indeed the Government would be giving the community a step-motherly treatment. I think my Friend the Minister for Development will not contradict me when I say that in my own recollection there have been hardly even two cases of men appointed to what is known as selection grade appointment, and even as regards the appointment of ordinary probationary sub-registrars I think that very few Indian Christians hardly more than three or four have been appointed in this department during the past three years. Therefore, Sir, I hope and trust that the hon. the Minister for Development will give me the assurance, an assurance which will certainly go a great way to satisfy the large number of Indian Christians who are very anxious to know whether there is any redemption awaiting them in regard to this matter."

* The hon. Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—"Sir, on the one side there is the complaint that men who are recruited for this office of sub-registrars do not possess such a high standard of character as is essential in one who comes to hold these offices, and on the other side there is the demand that the standard of recruitment should, if necessary, be lowered, so that a larger number of people who are acting now as clerks may find their way to the office of sub-registrars. I am not prepared to say that every one who possesses high academic qualification, has also a character corresponding to it. Nor would I say that because certain people are merely clerks and have not high academic qualification or taken degrees, their character leaves much to be desired. The Government are doing their best to hold the scales even between them, and when we find among the latter class, people of character and necessary capacity, we do try to take them. I thought this fact was well-known to my hon. Friend Mr. S. Arpudaswami Udayar who presumably can lay claim to some inside knowledge of the working of this department, and that he at least would readily concede that his community is represented well there."

* Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—"I only rise to press upon the hon. the Minister for Development just one point which was overlooked."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—"The hon. Member has to impress upon the House." (Laughter.)

* Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—"Upon the Minister and upon the House. With all respect to the House, I am seeking the support of the House in impressing this fact upon the hon. the Minister and the Government. So far as the Registration department is concerned, I think we require for the sub-registrars' post men of high educational qualification, for this reason that they have often to decide points even of law. Sometimes they may have to refuse registration of documents. It is not a very easy question to settle unless you have got some educational qualification. Therefore I think Government is right, and the department is right in insisting upon high qualifications. This

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one point has to be borne in mind, that a community which is, though wealthy, though in affluent circumstances, as a body neglects the opportunities given to them at every step for higher education and occasionally produces a graduate here and a graduate there, should not expect patronage from Government, simply because it encourages idleness among the boys. On the other hand, a community which is economically backward and which at much sacrifice educates its children and has got a large number of qualified men, ought to be encouraged by the State, and recruitment should preferably take place from that community. That community deserves it. It has been urged in this House before, that recruitment should be in proportion to the population. If this rule is enforced, there are certain communities which will have to wait till Doomsday for getting any appointment at all. It is not necessary for me to give instances.

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p.m.

“What I say is this. The State should reward the people who educate their children at much sacrifice. Sir, I would therefore urge upon this House and upon the department to bear this point in mind. I admit that the communities which are suffering under social disabilities and are not allowed to attend schools and colleges should be given a helping hand, but not the communities which are given opportunities of education and are even patted and patted in various ways. If in spite of it they are unable to produce more than half a dozen graduates when other communities not similarly favoured are producing graduates by hundreds, they should not be given special facilities for entering the service. Such a doctrine is not sound at all. I am entirely opposed to any privilege being given to such communities.”

* Mr. C. R. PARTHASARATHI AYYANGAR :—“Sir, this question has been agitating the public mind in several ways. I would point out one of them. Sir, the communal Government Orders which have been issued from time to time have been agitating the public mind and at least now they may be regarded as a dead letter. They are a source of irritation to every man having any sense and I hope the present Ministers will insist upon those Government Orders being cancelled. I was wondering why nobody raised this issue. I hope that now those Government Orders will be done away with, so that all people who take birth in this country and who have got brains may be treated alike in the matter of appointments irrespective of the community to which they may belong. Now, in this case I would respectfully suggest to all our friends not to raise the question of this community or that community being preferred at any time. The one principle on which we are now working is that every responsible person working for the Transferred departments is an agent of the Ministers and of the Council itself. If any one goes wrong it would affect the whole policy. Please do remember that. If the Transferred department does not work well that failure does not belong to the individual only, but it belongs to the Swarajya party as well as the Justice party. Remember that. Every one who is carrying out a given policy is part of a unit. We are not separate. We are not independent. When something goes wrong in the Registration department you cannot say that you are not responsible. If you deny your responsibility, you go back once more to the old state of affairs when responsibility was denied to us. Efficiency should be the criterion in the matter of appointments, and if, on occasions, a junior to be promoted belongs to the same community as the senior, you should not mind it. Communal questions should hereafter be nipped in the bud. We must not dream of communal spirit. It is a thing of the past. I hope it is dead and we have given it a

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decent burial. I therefore want to impress upon my hon. Friends that we all form one unit and that we are moving with a single will. So far as the Transferred department is concerned every failure of one man is the failure of the others and every blackmark that comes to any one man in the Transferred department is ours individually, singly and severally (Laughter). We are told several times by men of our own party that we should carry on the Transferred departments efficiently. Now therefore if any question of appointment comes up in any department we should not raise the communal bogey at all, but should only care to see whether the person to be appointed is efficient, whether he loves his subject and whether he identifies himself with the subjects entrusted to him. (Mr. G. Harisarvottama Rao: 'Even the Ministers are not given their own subjects'.) I really mean what I say and say what I mean. I am not making merely an academic statement although such statements are made in this House. I hope therefore that that point will be taken into consideration."

* Diwan Bahadur M. KRISHNAN NAYAR :—"I hope that my Friend Mr. Ranganatha Mudaliyar, for whom personally, in spite of all that he has said against my Friend Mr. Muniswami Nayudu's observations, I have very great respect, and his colleagues, the other Ministers will not follow the very bad advice that has been given by my friend Mr. Parthasarathi Ayyangar. (Cries of Hear, hear.) He solemnly advised and gave a warning also to my Friend that all the communal Government Orders which have been passed by the joint Government should be cancelled. If my hon. Friend Mr. Ranganatha Mudaliyar whose subject is now under discussion becomes a party to such a thing as that, I may warn him that the consequences will be serious. I do not know whether Mr. Parthasarathi Ayyangar knows the reasons which led up to the passing of those Government Orders. There was considerable heart-burning felt throughout the Presidency and it was in consequence of the expression of that heart-burning that those Government Orders were passed. And I may tell my friend that those Government Orders were passed not in the interests of the members of the Justice party about whom he apparently thinks, because he was turning to this side when he was speaking (Laughter). They were passed not in the interests of the members of the Justice party. (A Voice : Question.) It was passed in the interests of all non-Brahman and backward communities. (A Voice : Question.) It was passed in the interests of the Muhammadans."

MR. ABBAS ALI KHAN :—"Muhammadans were very badly treated, Sir."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—"That is not a personal explanation."

* Diwan Bahadur M. KRISHNAN NAYAR :—"I was submitting to you that those Government Orders were passed in the interests of all backward communities and all non-Brahmans (Cries of : No); in the interests of Muhammadans who sit in all sides of the House, in the interests of Christians whose cause my Friend Mr. Saldanha champions, and in the interests of Adi-Dravidas and Adi-Andhras. It was the result of deliberations of several committees and Members of Government. I may say also that Sir Charles Todhunter who was till recently a Member of this Government took particular care in wording the Government Order. It was as a result of all these deliberations that this Government Order was passed in the interests of all communities except the Brahman community. Because, for obvious reasons the Brahman community is an advanced community in every way. They are highly educated. They

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have made very good use of the opportunities that were given to them in the past. So, naturally, there was no reason for showing any special favour to them. So that I say that this Government Order was passed in the interests of all communities particularly the backward communities. The hon. Minister, I am sure, will not listen to the evil advice that has been given (Laughter). I did not want to intervene in this debate, Sir. It was on account of the observations that fell from my hon. Friend Mr. Parthasarathi Ayyangar and particularly having regard to the direction he was looking at when he was making those observations that I had to intervene." (Laughter).

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" I take it that the House is ready for the question."

MR. S. ARPUDASWAMI UDAYAR :—" Will you kindly allow me to put a question to the hon. the Minister for Development just to have a clear idea of an expression used by him ? "

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" I am sorry I cannot allow questions at this time."

The motion was put and lost.

* MR. R. SRINIVASA AYYANGAR :—" I beg to move, Sir—

' that the allotment of Rs. 1,40,500 for pay of officers be reduced by Rs. 100.'

" The object of tabling this motion is to discuss the desirability of levying on registered documents sent by post to parties only the actual charges therefor instead of a fixed rate irrespective of actual cost. If I may say so, Sir, the department has introduced a rule whereby a flat sum has been fixed to cover the transmission by post of registered documents to parties who signify their intention in that direction. My submission is that instead of prescribing the fee and collecting the money on a graduating scale commensurate with the number of sheets which the documents to be transmitted by post contain, it is hardly fair to collect a uniform rate of annas five from every person who signifies his intention that the documents be sent by post. Under this head alone, every year the Registration department takes, if I may say so, an unearned increment and an undeserving profit of about 16,000 or 17,000 rupees.

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" The charges that are levied must be only just sufficient to meet the necessities of the situation. But quite unmindful of the requirements the Government have instructed the department to levy this flat rate. It would not take much time for the registering officer to find out exactly what is the amount that may be recovered under this head. As soon as the registering officer gets a document he has to see whether it is in proper form and then he may easily find out with the help of a weighing scale how much would be required to transmit the document by post. This will not take much time. It would not take in a day more than fifteen minutes for this simple process. But without doing this all the parties are charged a flat rate. The department has been making a large profit. In some cases three annas would be an adequate payment; in some others four or five annas may be necessary. If the parties are charged only the absolutely necessary minimum, they would

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be relieved to the extent of two or three annas in each case. Though that may not be much to the department which collects Rs. 17,000, under this head, it is a great relief to the parties who resort to registration. This reduction will not make the administration suffer. I trust that the hon. Minister will look into this matter and give it the consideration that it deserves. I hope he will issue instructions to the effect that only actual charges must be levied and that the flat rate which hits hard nine-tenths of the people should be abandoned."

* The hon. Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR — "Sir, I am glad that the hon. Member Mr. Srinivasa Ayyangar has had an opportunity this year of moving this motion. Though he tabled this motion last year he could not move it. It is not so much as sixteen or seventeen thousands that is collected under this head. It is only Rs. 13 thousands. This amount is spread over as many as 300,000 documents. The hon. Member urged that only the actual cost incurred in sending these documents by post may be collected. This matter is under my consideration. In course of time I hope it will be possible for me to issue definite instructions in regard to this matter. I may assure the hon. Member that the matter is engaging my attention and I shall give it all the consideration I can."

* Mr. R. SRINIVASA AYYANGAR — "In view of the sympathetic assurance of the hon. Minister I do not press my motion."

The motion was by leave withdrawn.

* Rao Sahib R. SRINIVASAN — "Sir I beg to move

'that the allotment of Rs. 22,55,200 for Permanent Establishments be reduced by Rs. 100.'

"My object is to ask the Government to appoint honorary sub-registrars to a group of about 20 or 25 villages. In the rural parts several poor people borrow money from the money-lenders or their employers. Generally, the money-lenders or employers give a small sum of money and write a document for a larger sum on the security of their huts and cottages. They also get some of their friends as witnesses to sign the document. Since the men are illiterate, they do not discover the fraud, and in course of time they are unable to repay the amount and as a consequence their huts or small cottages are taken away from them in payment of their debts. The men are quite ignorant and innocent and when the document is revealed in Court at last they are unable to do anything.

"In order to put an end to this difficulty last year I introduced a Bill entitled 'The Madras Illiterate Attestation Bill'; but His Excellency the Governor-General could not see his way to assent to it. If for 20 or 25 villages an honorary sub-registrar is appointed and if he is asked to go through all such documents and attest them after explaining to these poor ignorant people the contents of the documents these difficulties would be put an end to. With this object in view I move the motion that stands in my name."

* The hon. Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR. — "The object which my hon. Friend has in view was to some extent covered by the observations made by my hon. Friend Mr. Arpudaswami Udayar and myself, namely, that more offices should be opened so that they may be within easy reach of all the people. I think that is the object of the hon. Member Mr. Srinivasan in asking us to appoint honorary sub-registrars. I do not know if he seriously

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advises us to embark upon this scheme of systematically appointing honorary sub-registrars throughout the Presidency. The duties of a registering officer are many and of a complicated nature. They do not begin or end with writing stereotyped endorsements on documents. They have to examine with great care the documents that are presented and find out whether they are in proper form, whether the proper stamp duty has been paid and so on. If there is any mistake, it will result in a good deal of correspondence with the parties. Great care has to be bestowed in seeing that there is no false personation or other fraud. We are hearing so much about the defects of the present officers even when we have a paid agency which is fairly well paid. It is rather difficult to contemplate the consequences of having an honorary agency who are expected to work from morning till evening and yet receive nothing for all the tedious and responsible work they have to do. If my hon. Friend's idea is that there are a good many people who are willing to do this work, I would just tell him that the Act as it stands makes ample provision for utilizing their services. Under section 6 of the Indian Registration Act the local Government may appoint such persons as honorary registrars and sub-registrars. If there are many people satisfying these qualifications and willing to take upon themselves these responsible and important duties, it will be time for the Government to consider the question. I hope my hon. Friend will withdraw this motion asking for the appointment of honorary registrars throughout the province."

* Rao Sahib R. SRINIVASAN :—" I do not press it."

The motion was by leave withdrawn.

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" Does the House propose to go on with the other motions on the agenda? The demand is to be put to the vote at 4-45 and there is very little time before us. (After a pause) I shall put the demand to the House."

The question that Government be granted a sum not exceeding 26.48 lakhs under Demand V—Registration was put to the House and carried. The grant was made.

DEMAND VI—IRRIGATION—CIVIL OFFICERS.

The hon. Mr. N. E. MARJORIBANKS :—" Sir, on the recommendation of His Excellency the Governor I move

' that Government be granted a sum not exceeding Rs. 13.32 lakhs under Demand VI—Irrigation—Civil Officers '."

* Mr. T. ADINARAYANA CHETTIYAR :—" Sir, I beg to move

' that the allotment of Rs. 13,27,200 for Minor Irrigation be reduced by Rs. 100.'

" I want to discuss the Minor Irrigation policy of the Government.

" Sir, although the hon. the Law Member has attracted our attention to big thundering schemes like the Mettur project and the Pykara scheme, I may tell the House that it is after all the small minor irrigation works, insignificant comparably though they are, that really benefit the poor ryots especially in districts like mine. At present, it is easy to convince anybody that the present method of Government's management of minor irrigation works is characterized by a lack of system. Nobody knows whether it is the Public Works Department or the Revenue Department that is really concerned with a particular work. The ryot is sent from one place to another

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as if from post to pillar with the result that he does not get the benefit he seeks. A very insignificant amount is allotted in the budget for the year 1927-28. In one taluk in North Arcot district alone there are 350 minor irrigation works. For all the ten taluks you have to multiply the number by ten. So much for one district. For the whole Presidency you have to multiply the result by about 30. To repair and maintain all these a sum of 10 lakhs has been provided. The cost of establishment, it will be found, comes to Rs. 2 lakhs. I think there is a working rule in the Public Works Department that the cost of works should be at least ten times the cost of establishment. Even according to this there should be a provision of Rs. 20 lakhs at least for minor irrigation works. But we see that the provision comes to less than 10 lakhs. Again, in practice you will find that owing to the lack of any system even the small amount provided year after year is not fully utilized.

“ But whose fault is it? It is not that of the ryot. He never stated that he did not want water for irrigation. It is the mismanagement of Government. Mismanagement as regards minor irrigation works reached its culminating point on the day on which that grade of officer called the supervisor of the minor irrigation works was abolished. Even the small amount that is allotted to the department is not utilized to the best advantage. While the Government is very rigorous about the collection of taxes, it seems to be blind to another aspect of its duty, its obligations to the ryot. If it were alive to the sense of its duty to the ryot, the minor irrigation works would not be in the deplorable state in which you find them to-day. I may mention that in my own district, irrigation works serving or rather meant to serve thousands of acres have not been repaired for 25, 35, 50 and even 75 years. By means of questions and by means of correspondence we tried to make the Government take up these works. Government talk about kudimaramat. It is easy to talk about it when our villagers are disorganized and when corporate life is almost extinct, thanks mostly to the policy of Government. You talk of kudimaramat at a time when it is too late at least by half a century. There are irrigation sources in North Arcot district which have been silted up to a height of about 18 or 22 feet. The biggest irrigation source in that district the Kaveripauk tank has got about 18 feet of silt. The tanks in the Cheyyar Anicut system—Vakkadai and Hissar tanks—have got silted to the extent of 20 feet. Of course, the Government has got the Executive Engineers' Irrigation conferences. Recently I happened to attend one of these conferences. Only then, I was able to see what a farce it was. You see the supply channels are silted up and banks full of rank vegetation. The Government talks of kudimaramat and stops there. The irrigation sources are not attended to. When the time of jamabandi comes, we find there is no remission of taxes. The hon. the Revenue Member is very strict. The rules also are very strict and exacting, and the officers are indifferent.

4-45
p.m.

“ There was one instance recently which I am obliged to refer to on this occasion. On some tank-bunds in the North Arcot district in Cheyyar division there were brick-kilns set up by ryots for domestic purposes. Those kilns were first heavily penalised. Recently in Cheyyar, some of them were confiscated by the Government. The Government has not only neglected its duty of repairing the irrigation source for more than half a century, but it has also penalised the ryots and confiscated some of the brick-kilns. When I brought this fact to the notice of the Collector, the usual reply was given that

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the action of the Revenue Divisional Officer was right. The hon. the Revenue Member is not going to give them any relief. He has entrenched himself safely behind many admirable Codes—the Famine Code and Board's Standing Orders and will not move in the matter. Apart from other considerations, even from the Government's selfish point of view it will pay the Government to keep these irrigation sources in good repair. For a year, or it may be for 5 or 10 years, you may exact from the poor ryot his dues by this code or by that section. You can flout the considered and unanimous opinion of this House regarding the grant of part-field remission at least in the famine-affected districts, for some time to come. You may have the conference of Collectors in secrecy in the cool atmosphere of Ootacamund and you can say there that the unanimous resolution passed by the Council do not find favour with them. How long can this go on? There will come a time when the ryot even after borrowing from the co-operative society and the sowcar would be in such a position that there would be not even a drop of blood for the Government to draw from him.

"One other aspect and I am done. I believe there is the Famine Insurance Fund. I do not know whether there has been any occasion to draw upon this fund. The fund was started with a very good motive. But I ask what is the advantage of accumulating that fund if that cannot be drawn upon to start irrigation schemes for which plans are ready. If that could not be done I would rather ask that that fund be abolished. With these words I commend this motion to the acceptance of the House for being passed unanimously."

* Rao Bahadur K. SITARAMA REDDIYAR :—" Sir, I do not wish to detain the House for more than a few seconds. The hon. the Revenue Member told us last year that he would try and get more allotment for this head. Looking at the budget, page 86, we find that the revised estimate was for Rs. 11,96,000 while the estimate for the next year is only Rs. 10,68,000. It may be that the expenditure was not fully incurred or it may be that he was of opinion that there was no scope for spending it. I do not believe the latter. I suppose the whole expenditure was not incurred and probably the hon. the Finance Member took him to task for not spending the allotted amount and reduced the provision for the next year. I hope he will try and see that more allotments are made available for this head."

* Diwan Bahadur P. C. KTHIRAJULU NAYUDU :—" Mr. President, Sir, it need not be expressed that there is water scarcity everywhere. Irrigation sources are in a hopelessly neglected condition. Every year at the time of the general discussion of the budget, member after member have urged that more money should be allotted for this purpose, but I do not see that anything appreciable has been done in this direction. People in Guntur are very badly suffering from want of water even for drinking purposes. They have to go for about 8 or 10 miles to get water. What I urge is that more money should be spent every year for the purpose of keeping these tanks in good repair. Then only the condition of the irrigation tanks would improve, and the question of water-supply to a certain extent would be solved. I therefore request the hon. the Revenue Member who is in charge of this subject to view this question sympathetically and allot more money under this head. These tanks once serving the villagers not only for irrigation purposes but also for their domestic use and for cattle, are now found lying silted up, overgrown with vegetation and babul trees, and with their bunds broken up and smashed. What I urge

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is that a programme be drawn up in consultation with the Collectors of the district and the presidents of local boards, and that annually a substantial amount, say, 50,000 or one lakh of rupees or thereabouts—not meagre sums of three or four thousands of rupees—be provided for to each district so that the scarcity for water required for irrigation and other domestic purposes is gradually diminished."

* Mr. A. PARASURAMA RAO :—" Mr. President, Sir, I see that the amount allotted for minor irrigation works is Rs. 30 and odd lakhs. When this amount is allocated to different districts, it will come to Rs. 50,000 or so, and when it is further allotted to the several taluks it comes to nothing. Probably the amount may not be enough to repair even a tank or a portion of a tank which may require thorough repairs. If the Government want to have their revenue secured properly, one thing I would advise them to do is to attend to irrigation works first before other demands are attended to. Because, these tanks were repaired long, long ago. Oftentimes there had been only nominal repairs, repairs merely touching the bunds here and there, throwing some gravel on the tank bunds, making a show that the tanks have been repaired. It is a fact that cannot be controverted that many of these tanks have got silted up and most of the tanks do require substantial repairs. It is not desirable that we should close our eyes to what is going on around especially at a time when people are suffering from distress and famine and when they clearly see that there is absolutely no water and the seasons have not been favouring us at all. I would urge upon the consideration of the Government that larger sums ought to be made available for this purpose.

" Mr. President, Sir, you will see from the budget a sum of Rs. 5 lakhs has been allotted for establishment, but barely Rs. 13 lakhs are left for the irrigation works themselves. The tanks were formed long, long ago, most of them before the advent of the British and some before the advent of the Muhammadans in this country. At the time when those tanks were formed the circumstances then existing were taken into consideration. Now, times have changed; rains are holding off; and we have fallen on bad times. Under these circumstances it is highly desirable that better provision ought to be made in order to see that the ryots are provided with water. It is not a mere request. I would put it as a matter of contract, because the Government have undertaken to give water to the ryot. They have issued a patta and in the patta they have said that they are in duty bound to provide water because the lands are classed wet lands. If there is in it any default on the part of the Government and if proper precaution is not taken, I dare say that the ryots could not be compelled to pay the assessment. As for remissions, it is a matter within the sweet discretion of the local authorities. We know from experience that remissions are not at all granted even if there is severe famine or if water is available for overflowing. There is absolutely nothing upon which the ryot may claim remission when the tank dries up. It is a matter of contract. Even if it is not a matter of contract, may I simply appeal to the Treasury Bench to see the justice I claim, and to see their way to allot a larger amount?"

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" It being 5 o'clock, the Council will now adjourn and re-assemble at 11 o'clock to-morrow."

R. V. KRISHNA AYYAR,
Secretary to the Legislative Council.

THE MADRAS LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

Friday, the 18th March 1927.

The House met at 11 o'clock, Mr. President (the hon. Rao Bahadur C. V. S. NARASIMHA RAJU Garu) in the chair.

PRESENT:

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| <p>Ramaswami Ayyar, K.C.I.E., The hon. Sir C. P. Marjoribanks, C.S.I., C.I.E., The hon. Mr. N. E. Usman Sahib Bahadur, The hon. Khan Bahadur Muhammad.</p> <p>Moir, C.S.I., C.I.E., The hon. Mr. T. E. Subbarayan, The hon. Dr. P. Ranganatha Mudaliyar, The hon. Mr. A. Arogyaswami Mutaliyar, The hon. Diwan Bahadur R. N. Abbas Ali Khan Bahadur. Abdul Rezaek Sahib Bahadur, Khan Bahadur S. K. Abdul Wahab Sahib Bahadur, Munshi. Adinarayana Chettiyar, Mr. T. Anjaneyulu, Mr. P. Appavu Chettiyar, Mr. C. D. Ari Gowder, Mr. H. B. Arpudaswami Udayar, Mr. S. Basheer Ahmad Sayeed Sahib Bahadur. Bazi-ul-lah Sahib Bahadur, C.I.E., C.B.E., Khan Bahadur Muhammad. Bhaktava'sulu Nayudu, Mr. P. Bheemayya, Mr. J. Biswanath Das Mahasayo, Sriman. Boag, Mr. G. T. Chidambaranatha Mudaliyar, Mr. T. K. Congreve, Mr. C. R. T. Cotterell, C.I.E., Mr. C. B. Dorai Raja, Mr. N. N. Ellappa Chettiyar, Rao Sahib S. Ethirajulu Nayudu, Diwan Bahadur P. C. Gangadhara Siva, Mr. M. V. Gopala Menon, Mr. C. Govindaraja Mudaliyar, Mr. C. S. Guruswami, Rao Sahib L. C. Hall, C.B.E., Mr. J. F. Hamid Khan Sahib Bahadur, Abdul. Hampayya, Rai Sahib M. Harisarvottama Rao, Mr. G. Hearson, Mr. H. F. P. John, Mr. V. Ch. Kaleswara Rao, Mr. A. Karant, Mr. K. R. Khadir Mohidin Sahib Bahadur, Muhammad. Koti Reddi, Mr. K. Krishnan, Mr. K. Krishnan Nayar, Diwan Bahadur M. Krishnaswami Nayakar, Mr. K. V. Kumara Raja of Venkatagiri. Kumaraswami Reddiyar, Diwan Bahadur S. Kuppuswami, Mr. J. MacDougall, Esq., Sir Alexander. Madhavan Nayar, Mr. K. Mahmud Sohammad Sahib Bahadur,</p> | <p>Mallayya, Dr. B. S. Manikkavelu Nayakar, Mr. M. A. Marudavanam Pillai, Mr. C. Meera Ravuttar Bahadur, K. P. V. S. Muhammad Moida Sahib Bahadur, T. M. Moore, C.I.E., Mr. P. L. Muniswami Nayudu, Rao Bahadur B. Muniswami Pillai, Mr. V. I. Muppil Nayar of Kavalappara, Mr. Muttayya Mudaliyar, Mr. S. Muthulakshmi Reddi, Dr. (Mrs.). Muthuranga Mudaliyar, Mr. C. N. Nagan Gowda, Mr. R. Nanjappa Bahadur, Subadar-Major S. A. Narayana Raju, Mr. D. Narayana Rao, Mr. Mothay. Narayanan Chettiyar, Mr. A. Ar. Narayanan Nambudripad, Rao Bahadur O. M. Narayanaswami Pillai, Mr. T. M. Obi Reddi, Mr. C. Pandrang Rao, Mr. V. Parasurama Rao Pantulu, Mr. A. Parthasarathi Ayyangar, Mr. C. B. Patro, Esq., Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. Premayya, Mr. G. R. Raja of Panagal, K.C.I.E. Raja of Ramnad. Rajan, Mr. P. T. Ramachandra Padayachi, Mr. K. Ramachandra Reddi, Mr. B. Ramanath Goenka, Mr. Ramaswami Ayyar, Mr. U. Ratnasabapathi Mudaliyar, Rao Bahadur C. S. Sahajanandam, Swami A. S. Saldanha, Mr. J. A. Sami Venkatachalam Chetti, Mr. Sarabha Reddi, Mr. K. Satyamurti, Mr. S. Shetty, Mr. A. B. Sitarara Reddi, Rao Bahadur K. Siva Raj, Mr. N. Sivasubrahmanya Ayyar, Mr. K. S. Slater, C.I.E., Mr. S. H. Soundara Pandia Nadar, Mr. W. P. A. Srinivasa Ayyangar, Mr. R. Srinivasa Ayyangar, Mr. T. C. Srinivasan, Rao Sahib R. Subrahmanya Moopanar, Mr. S. Subrahmanya Pillai, Mr. Chavadi K. Sundaramurti Pillai, Rao Sahib P. V. S. Swami, Mr. K. V. R. Syed Ibrahim Sahib Bahadur. Tajudin Sahib Bahadur, Syed.</p> |
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PRESENT—cont.

Thomas, Mr. D.
 Tireman, C.I.E., Mr. H.
 Tulasiram, Mr. L. K.
 Uppi Sahib Bahadur, K.
 Vanavudaiya Goundar, Mr. S. V.
 Venkatapati Raju, Mr. P. O.
 Venkatarama Ayyar, Mr. K. R.
 Venkatarama Sastri, C.I.E., Mr. T. R.

Venkataramana Ayyangar, Mr. C. V.
 Venkatarangam Nayudu, Mr. C.
 Venkataratnam, Mr. B.
 Venkiah, Mr. S.
 Wood, Mr. C. E.
 Zamindar of Gollapalli.
 Zamindar of Mirzapuram.
 Zamindar of Seithur.

I

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

[Order made by the President of the Madras Legislative Council under Standing Order No. 15.]

1. Starred questions to be put at a meeting of the Council with their answers shall be printed and placed on the Council table an hour before the President takes his seat.

The President will call out the name of each interpellator in the order in which the names are printed, specify the serial number of his question and make a sufficient pause to give him or any other member a reasonable opportunity of rising in his place and putting a supplementary question. Supplementary questions must be put immediately after the principal questions to which they relate.

2. If a member responsible for a starred question happens to be absent when it is called, it will be open either to him or to any other member to put supplementary questions thereon after the other starred questions for the day have been answered, provided question-time is not thereby exceeded.

3. Questions, not starred, will not be called in Council, but they will be printed with their answers and placed on the table of the House along with the list of starred questions. Oral supplementary questions will not be allowed in regard to unstarred questions.]

STARRED QUESTIONS

Public Health

Supply of drinking water to the ryots of Tippasamudram.

* 370 Q.—Mr. M. A. MANIKKAVELU NAYAKAR: Will the hon. the Minister for Public Health be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that in the village of Tippasamudram (No. 56) in the Vellore taluk, drinking water was supplied to villagers by the Taluk Board by installing a pump in a well, for the last ten years;

(b) if so, whether the Taluk Board has abandoned that this year; and

(c) whether in view of the drought this year and the famine conditions prevailing in the district, the Government will at once arrange to re-start the pump in the said village?

A.—(a) Yes.

(b) Yes.

(c) The Vellore Taluk Board has applied to the North Arcot District Board for a contribution towards the cost of the establishment required to work the pump and the matter is now under the consideration of the District Board. The Government await the decision of the District Board.

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MR. T. ADINARAYANA CHETTIYAR :—" Will the hon. the Minister be pleased to state how long ago did the taluk board make the request to the district board ? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR :—" I should ask for notice."

MR. T. ADINARAYANA CHETTIYAR :—" Considering the season and the urgent need for drinking water, will the hon. the Minister be pleased to arrange to re-start the pump in the village ? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR :—" The district board has replied that it proposes to place the request of the taluk board before the next budget meeting of the district board."

MR. T. ADINARAYANA CHETTIYAR :—" What is the date of the district board's letter ? The budget meeting, I think, Sir, is over."

The hon. Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR :—" I do not know that. I have sent a reminder."

Agriculture

The Shiyali Agricultural and Industrial Society.

* 371 Q.—MR. S. MUTTAYYA MUDALIYAR : Will the hon. the Minister for Development be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government is aware of the resolution passed at the Mirasidars' Conference at Aduthurai, that the Shiyali Agricultural and Industrial Society at Arasur, which is in liquidation, should be taken up by Government and worked as a Government concern ;

(b) what action has been taken by the Government in the matter ;

(c) whether the Government has ascertained at what price it will be possible to manufacture manure and supply manure to the agriculturists ; and

(d) whether such price will compare favourably with the price at which similar manure is available ?

A.—(a) The Government have now seen a copy of the resolution as reported in the newspapers.

(b) None so far.

(c) & (d) The Director of Agriculture has been addressed in the matter.

MR. R. NAGAN GOWDA :—" With reference to clauses (c) and (d) the answer given here is that the Director of Agriculture has been addressed in the matter. May I know if any reply has been received ? "

The hon. Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—" Yes, it has been received since and the reply goes to show that it is possible for the society at Arasur to manufacture manure at more or less the same cost at which they are sold by firms."

MR. T. ADINARAYANA CHETTIYAR :—" May I ask the hon. the Development Minister whether he is aware that the European commercial firm which supplies manure, I don't like to give its name here, does not supply the proper

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quality of manure and that therefore, apart from the prices, it is very desirable that the local firm takes over the manufacture. Will he consider this aspect of the question ? ”

The hon. Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—“ I do not know about the accuracy of the statement made by the hon. Member.”

Mr. T. ADINARAYANA CHETTIYAR :—“ I am told that a particular firm, I do not want to give the name, supplies very inferior stuff to the ryots while it supplies better stuff to favoured customers like European planters for the same price ? ”

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—“ I am afraid the hon. Member is furnishing information to the House and to the hon. the Development Minister.”

Mr. R. NAGAN GOWDA :—“ May I know what is the kind of manure referred to here ? ”

The hon. Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—“ . . . Bone-meal manure, Sir.”

Mr. R. NAGAN GOWDA :—“ May I know the price at which commercial firms sell these manures ? ”

The hon. Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—“ About Rs. 100 per ton.”

Mr. R. NAGAN GOWDA :—“ Sir, in view of the fact that super phosphate is sold at Rs. 5-11-0 per cwt, is it not possible for Government to manufacture bone-meal at much less than Rs. 100 per ton ? ”

The hon. Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—“ I do not know. But, as I have already said, I think, it would be possible to manufacture manure more or less for the same price, if not for a cheaper price.”

Mr. R. NAGAN GOWDA :—“ If so, Sir, regarding clause (b) the answer given is ‘ None so far’. Will the Government be now pleased to take any action in this matter ? ”

The hon. Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—“ The particular society has passed a resolution resolving to wind up the business and at the same time there has been a resolution passed at the conference of mirasdars that the Government should come to its rescue. Personally, I do not like that it should disappear altogether. The matter is really under the consideration of Government. We are thinking whether it will be possible to revive the business or to start another society to run it.”

Mr. R. NAGAN GOWDA :—“ May I ask whether the Department of Industries was in touch with the industrial society at Arasur when it was operating ? ”

The hon. Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—“ Sir, the resolution passed at the conference of mirasdars generously concedes that this department has done its level best to help the concern in question. In spite of all that, it is in liquidation.”

Mr. R. NAGAN GOWDA :—“ Sir, may I know whether it is due to any inherent defect that this company failed or is it due to mismanagement ? ”

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The hon. Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—" It will be hard for me to go into the case of a private concern. It might have fared better if it had been managed properly. But, for one reason or other, it was not done."

Mr. S. ARPUDASWAMI UDAYAR :—" In view of the importance of phosphatic manures and their suitability for the Tanjore district, may I ask the hon. Minister for Development to consider whether the Government have under consideration any scheme to run the business themselves for some time until it becomes prosperous and is in a position to be handed over to the Co-operative department, or some co-operative concern ? "

The hon. Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—" I think it is not for Government to interfere with the management of private concerns except by advice when it is asked for."

Mr. K. V. R. SWAMI :—" Will the Government pay any subsidy to the society so that it may work properly ? "

The hon. Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—" As I have already stated, it has been decided by the society that it should be wound up."

Agricultural schools in the Presidency.

* 372 Q.—Mr. J. A. SALDANHA : Will the hon. the Minister for Development be pleased to state with reference to my question No. 31 of 25th January 1927—

(a) what steps Government contemplate in order to make their agricultural schools popular ; and

(b) whether Government have been approached by anybody for grant-in-aid for established private agricultural schools with experimental farms, etc., and what action they have taken ?

A.—(a) The matter is under the consideration of Government.

(b) The Madura District Board applied to Government for a grant for establishing an agricultural middle school at Usilampatti in the Madura district ; but the Government decided that the school should be under the management of the Agricultural department. The scheme was thereupon placed before the Finance Committee as a Part II scheme for 1927-28, but the Committee placed it under class IV and observed that past experience of these schemes did not inspire them with confidence and considered that the working of the existing schools should be examined before further experiments are made.

Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—" May I enquire with reference to clause (b) why the Government decided that the schools should be under the management of the Agricultural department and why did not Government try, why local board at least should not be allowed to try, this experiment ? "

The hon. Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—" I am very glad that my hon. Friend has referred to this matter. The Agricultural department came in only to help the management. As regards the other thing, it is under the consideration of Government whether the district board should not be permitted to open such institutions."

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Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—" May I enquire on what principle and on what basis Government give aid to local boards for starting such institutions ? "

The hon. Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—" That will be a matter for negotiation between the district board and the Government."

Rao Bahadur C. S. RATNASABAPATI MUDALIYAR :—" May I know, with regard to answer (b), that past experience of these schemes did not inspire them with confidence and that the working of the existing schools should be examined before further experiments are made, what schemes have failed ? "

The hon. Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—" That is the opinion of the Finance Committee."

Rao Bahadur C. S. RATNASABAPATI MUDALIYAR :—" May I know, Sir, whether the proposal to establish an agricultural school at Bhavani has developed ? "

The hon. Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—" I do not know."

Mr. P. C. VENKATAPATI RAJU :—" Will the hon. the Minister be pleased to state the amount of the grant wanted by the district board and the cost of the Government scheme ? "

The hon. Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—" About Rs. 15,000."

Mr. R. NAGAN GOWDA :—" The answer to clause (a) of the question says that the matter is under the consideration of Government and the answer itself is dated 22nd February. Have the Government come to any decision since ? "

The hon. Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—" I wish I could answer in the affirmative, but it is really a matter which requires a little detailed consideration, and I hope the hon. Member will be indulgent if I take time to come to a conclusion."

Education

Poverty certificates for girls attending secondary schools and colleges.

* 373 Q.—Mr. J. A. SALDANHA : With reference to the answer to my question No. 2426 of 1st September 1926, regarding poverty certificates in the case of girls attending secondary schools and colleges, will the hon. the Minister for Education and Local Self-Government be pleased to place before the House the opinion of the Finance Committee and the Government Orders thereon and to state—

- (a) from whom and by whom the certificates have to be obtained ; and
- (b) on what grounds the Finance Committee's opinion is based ?

A.—(i) & (ii) (b) The attention of the hon. Member is invited to page 100 of the Proceedings of the Legislative Council, dated 25th August 1926. The Government accepted the recommendation of the Committee.

- (ii) (a) The attention of the hon. Member is invited to rule 92 of the Madras Educational Rules.

Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—" May I enquire on what ground the Finance Committee has arrived at the conclusion that the old concession should not be restored ? "

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The hon. Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN :—“ Yes, Sir, the Finance Committee 11-30
rightly came to that conclusion and it was also the opinion of the Gov- a.m.
ernment. The Government thought that the rich people ought to pay
for the education of their children.”

Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—“ It is not a question of the rich people paying,
but it is a question of the poor people not paying. May I enquire, Sir, why
in the case of poor people, but not the rich, this concession should not have
been given on the opinion formed by the headmasters and principals, as it is
stated in the proceedings referred to, that the Director of Public Instruction
pointed out that the initial responsibility in regard to these certificates rested
upon headmasters and managers of the schools concerned? If the head-
masters of the school are of opinion that the pupil is poor, why should the
concession not be given? ”

Rao Bahadur C. S. RATNASABAPATI MUDALIYAR :—“ Will the hon. the
Minister be pleased to note that all poor classes are not given this conces-
sion? It is only the poor people belonging to the backward communities
that get the concession. What about the children of poor people belonging
to non-backward communities? ”

The hon. Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN :—“ That rule does not apply in the case of
girls, Sir.”

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN :—“ Does the hon. the Minister for Local Self-
Government know that the certificate of poverty works great hardship on
such of those poor students as deserve this concession? ”

The hon. Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN :—“ I should like to have the matter enquired
into before I can give an answer.”

Proposal for treating untrained teachers of long service as trained.

* 374 Q.—Mr. K. ABDUL HYE SAHIB : With reference to the answer to
clauses (a), (b) and (c) of question No. 1779 regarding proposal for treating
untrained teachers of 15 years' service as trained, answered on the 24th
March 1926, will the hon. the Minister for Education and Local Self-Govern-
ment be pleased to state—

(a) whether it relates to schools managed by local bodies also ;

(b) if the answer be in the affirmative, will the Government be pleased
to explain how the statement in reason No. 1 given in the answer, namely,
“ the department was unable to meet in full the demands made by the
District Educational Councils, etc., etc., ” is to be reconciled ?

A.—(a) Yes.

(b) Reason No. 1 given in the answer to question No. 1779 is only
one among the several reasons for not proceeding with the
proposal. A more important reason is that the concession in
question cannot be granted without detriment to educational
efficiency. It will also be difficult to push on with the training
of teachers at the pace required, as untrained teachers will evade
training so long as they can hope for the concession.

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Grants-in-aid to private elementary schools.

* 375 Q.—MR. J. A. SALDANHA: Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) what is the grant-in-aid allowed by Government to private elementary schools;

(b) on what basis it is allowed;

(c) on what basis it was allowed before the present system was adopted; and

(d) why was the old system given up?

A.—(a) & (b) Grants admissible to aided elementary schools fall under the following heads:—

(i) Teaching grants;

(ii) grants for school buildings and for hostels or boarding houses for students; and

(iii) grants for furniture, books and appliances.

The hon. Member is referred to the rules framed under section 42 (2) of the Elementary Education Act, published in Notification No. 45 on pages 146—178 of Part I-B of the *Port St. George Gazette*, dated 21st February 1922, as modified by Notification No. 253 on page 397 of the same Gazette, dated 27th October 1925. A copy of the rules is placed in the Council Library.

(c) & (d) Alterations in the rules relating to the payment of grants have been made from time to time. If the hon. Member will specify the particular head of grant and the nature of the alteration he has in mind, the Government will endeavour to furnish the required particulars:

Mr. J. A. Saldanha rose and was referring to the printed answer for some time.

The hon. the PRESIDENT:—"I may inform the hon. Member that unless he has a supplementary question ready, he will not be justified in rising and making the House wait for him till he puts the supplementary question."

Mr. J. A. SALDANHA:—"I shall put it on the next question, Sir, as it is more relevant to that."

Reduction of grants to private aided schools.

* 376 Q.—MR. J. A. SALDANHA: Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that the grants to private aided schools have been reduced by 10 per cent in 1923-24, by 13 per cent in 1924-25 and by 28½ per cent in 1925-26; and

(b) if so, for what reasons and under what authority?

A.—(a) The hon. Member apparently refers to the reductions in the teaching grants paid by the District Educational Council, Malabar. The figures for 1924-25 and 1925-26 are correct. The percentage of deduction in 1923-24 was 9.33 per cent.

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- (h) The hon. Member is referred to the last sub-clause of rule 2 of the rules framed under section 12 (2) of the Elementary Education Act, 1920. A copy of the rules is placed in the Council Library.

Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—"What I want to know, Sir, is whether having regard to the fact that the amount provided for is not adequate, a larger provision would be made within the year. There has been a constant reduction of 20 per cent and 30 per cent year after year. I want to know whether the Government is going to provide, at least this year, an adequate amount?"

The hon. Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN :—"The whole question of the system of elementary education is at present under consideration and I am not prepared to give an answer now on that question."

Local Boards

Exemption of the poorer classes from profession tax.

* 377 Q.—Mr. J. A. SALDANHA : Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Local Self-Government be pleased to state with reference to my question No. 29 of the 25th January 1927—

(a) whether certain people of Neermagu and other villages have represented to Government that situated as their villages are at long distances from the taluk headquarters, the poorer classes are almost precluded from getting relief from inability to go long distances and also on account of poverty ;

(b) whether Government have considered the desirability by necessary amending legislation of exempting poorer classes like the field labourers from the profession tax ; and

(c) if so, the clauses of the Local Boards Act which they propose to amend ?

A.—(a) Yes.

(b) & (c) No person whose income is less than Rs. 25 per mensem is liable to pay profession tax in local board areas. The Government do not consider it necessary to raise the limit of exemption.

Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—"May I draw attention to the point that in a memorial submitted by the people of the villages of Neermagu, etc., the fact that they are in many cases too poor and are living at a great distance, and as a matter of fact being poor classes . . ."

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—"The hon. Member is requested to put his supplementary question direct."

Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—"Yes, Sir, It is rather a long one." (Laughter).

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—"I think the hon. Member is aware that there is a rule that a question must not be of excessive length."

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Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—" I want to know whether Government have taken into consideration the difficulties of these poor villagers owing to the distance from the headquarters in presenting appeals."

The hon. Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN :—" I shall have the matter enquired into, Sir."

Forests

Reserved forests in Kurnool district.

* 378 Q.—Mr. G. HARISARVOTTAMA RAO: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(a) what the area of the reserved forests in the Kurnool district is under each of the following heads in (1) Nallamalais, (2) Yerramalais, (3) Veligondas, (4) elsewhere :—

- (i) hill-side which is bare of all growth of either trees or underwood,
- (ii) hill-side which is bare of all growth except underwood,
- (iii) open land which is bare of all growth of either trees or underwood,
- (iv) open land which is bare of all growth except underwood, and

(b) how long such area in every case has been in the reserve, the approximate income every such area has yielded during the years 1923-24, 1924-25 and 1925-26, and how much of such income has been derived from (i) grazing fees, (ii) minor forest produce, (iii) permits for fuel, (iv) timber, if any ?

A.—A statement furnishing such information as is available on the several points raised in the question is appended ^a. It is not possible to give the approximate figures of income required by the hon. Member as the accounts are not kept according to the classification adopted in the question.

Mr. G. HARISARVOTTAMA RAO :—" In column 4 of the appendix on page 10, it is stated under the heading ' Hillside bare of all growth except underwood ', ' scattered patches occur here and there in Yerramalais and Giddalore blocks '. I am now referring only to Yerramalais. I want to know if the truth is not the other way, that is ' Growth otherwise than underwood is to be found in patches here and there ' and not as is stated in the appendix."

The hon. Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—" I cannot answer these details off-hand, Sir. If the hon. Member gives me notice, I shall answer them."

Mr. G. HARISARVOTTAMA RAO :—" I have given sufficient notice. But may I ask him if Mr. Stebbing in his ' Forests of India ' does not describe the Yerramalais as apparently barren, rocky hillside ? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—" Notice of the question, Sir."

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Jails

Terms of imprisonment of Mappilla prisoners in the Andamans.

* 379 Q.—MR. MAHMUD SCHAMNAD SAHIB: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state the remaining terms of imprisonment of the Mappilla prisoners now in the Andamans?

A.—THE GOVERNMENT have no information. They have called for it from the Chief Commissioner, Andamans.

Constitution of Districts, Divisions and Taluks

Formation of the Union Board at Polavaram.

* 380 Q.—MR. K. V. R. SWAMI: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that the District Board, East Godavari Agency, resolved to form an union board at Polavaram, an Agency village;

(b) whether the views of the people were ascertained prior to such resolution; and

(c) whether the people concerned have met in a meeting and passed a resolution unanimously protesting against the formation of any union board?

A.—(a) Yes.

(b) If by 'people' the residents of the village are meant, the papers before the Government do not show whether or no this was done.

(c) A petition has been received forwarding a resolution said to have been passed at a meeting of the people of Polavaram.

MR. K. V. R. SWAMI:—"Will the hon. the Revenue Member be pleased to state whether Koya villages are included in this Polavaram union?"

THE hon. MR. N. E. MARJORIBANKS:—"I must ask for notice of that question, Sir."

MR. K. V. R. SWAMI:—"Seeing that he received a petition from the people of the place, will the hon. Member consider the necessity of abolishing this union?"

THE hon. MR. N. E. MARJORIBANKS:—"The petition has been referred to the District Board for their remarks, and will be considered on its receipt back."

MR. K. V. R. SWAMI:—"Has the hon. Member received any information that the people there refuse to make any nomination?"

THE hon. MR. N. E. MARJORIBANKS:—"No, Sir."

Famine

Famine works in Ganjam district.

* 381 Q.—RAO BAHADUR SIR A. P. PATRO: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) what the declared famine years in the district of Ganjam since 1836 have been;

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(b) what the amounts spent on famine works in the district were during each of those years ; and

(c) what was the amount spent on famine works in the last famine 1920-21 ?

A.—(a) & (b) The hon. Member is referred to—

(1) paragraph 15 at pages 12 to 15 of the report for Ganjam in the “ Statistical Atlas of the Madras Presidency ” published in 1924 ;

(2) the statement at page 44 of the “ Report on the famine in the Madras Presidency during 1896-97 ” published in 1898 ; and

(3) G.O. No. 1623, Revenue, dated 19th October 1925, which also was published.

(c) There was no famine in Ganjam in 1920-21.

Land Revenue

Revenue from and expenditure on resumed village service inams.

* 382 Q.—The ZAMINDAR OF GOLLAPALLI : Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) the income derived by the Government on account of the collection of quit-rent of the resumed village service inams in proprietary villages of this Presidency ; and

(b) the sum total of expenditure incurred on account of the pay of village officers in the villages of the above type in this Presidency ?

A.—(a) The quit-rent on enfranchised village service inams in proprietary estates is estimated for 1926-27 at Rs. 8,00,000.

(b) The total cost is estimated at Rs. 25,26,980 for the year 1926-27.

The ZAMINDAR OF GOLLAPALLI :—“ The Government are pleased to state that the expenditure is more than the income derived from the enfranchised village service inams in proprietary estates. Will they be pleased to consider the propriety of introducing the *rusum* or commission system ? ”

The hon. Mr. N. E. MARJORIBANKS :—“ I do not see, Sir, how that will make the cost less.”

The RAJA OF RAMNAD :—“ Does not the hon. Member think that by restoring these villages and making the village officers pay in the proprietary estates to be paid by the proprietors, there will be savings to Government ? ”

The hon. Mr. N. E. MARJORIBANKS :—“ It will certainly be saving for Government, but I do not think that there is any likelihood of the proprietors undertaking to do so.”

Mr. K. V. R. SWAMI :—“ Were the village officers paid anything extra before the inams were enfranchised ? ”

The hon. Mr. N. E. MARJORIBANKS :—“ Before enfranchisement of the inams, Sir, they received *miras* or fees. What the exact amount was I cannot say.”

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Assessment of kumki lands.

* 383 Q.—**Mr. A. B. SHETTY**: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether the recent proposal of the Board of Revenue to assess kumki lands is going to be adopted by Government;

(b) whether kumki privileges as now enjoyed will be withdrawn in the case of people who do not avail themselves of the offer at the proposed concession rate;

(c) whether the assessment will be at a flat rate of 4 annas per acre everywhere or whether it will be correspondingly lowered in second and third group villages;

(d) whether the concession rates now allowed will be enhanced at future settlements and if so, after what period; and

(e) whether the levy of subdivision fees will be waived and the seigniorage demanded on sandalwood trees be remitted, in respect of kumki lands to be assigned as above?

A.—(a) to (e) The subject is under the consideration of the Government.

Minor Irrigation

Supply of water to Vantimitta irrigation tank.

* 384 Q.—**Mr. A. PARASURAMA RAO**: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue and the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that the irrigation tank of Vantimitta village of Siddhout taluk in Cuddapah district has not been receiving adequate supply of water for many years past and consequently the Government had to give remissions almost every year to the extent of Rs. 16,000 during the last 14 years;

(b) if so, whether any action was taken till now to find out means for adequate supply of water to that tank;

(c) whether any scheme for a supply channel either from the Cheyyar river or the Pennair river was investigated, and with what result; and

(d) whether the Government propose to direct an investigation into the possibility of digging a supply channel from either of the two rivers?

A.—If the hon. Member refers to the Peddacheruvu tank, the total remission on lands under this tank granted during the 14 years ending with fasli 1335 was Rs. 14,976. The Government have called for information on the other points.

Mr. A. PARASURAMA RAO:—“Am I to understand, Sir, that the information could not be secured even after two months from the date of the question? The question was sent on the 17th January and we are now in March.”

The hon. the **PRESIDENT**:—“The Government state that they have called for information on the other points.”

Mr. A. PARASURAMA RAO:—“Am I to understand, Sir, that the information has not been received yet?”

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The hon. Mr. N. E. MARJORIBANKS:—"The information has been received and a revised answer was, I think, sent in. Possibly it was too late to be put on the paper."

The hon. the PRESIDENT:—"The hon. Member may repeat the question to-morrow."

Civil Justice

Alleged memorial from process-servers, East Tanjore.

* 385 Q.—MR. S. MUTTAYYA MUDALIYAR: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether memorials have been received from the process-servers, East Tanjore, about the pay, pension and privileges of process-servers; and

(b) what action has been or is proposed to be taken thereon?

A.—(a) No.

(b) The question does not arise.

Irrigation

Report of the special officer deputed for obtaining tenders for machinery for the Mettur Project.

* 386 Q.—MR. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR: Will the hon. the Law Member, the hon. the Member for Revenue and the hon. the Member for Finance be pleased to state—

(a) whether the special officer sent to England for obtaining the tenders for machinery in connexion with the Mettur Project has submitted his final report;

(b) whether the Government have decided to publish that report before any action is taken on the same;

(c) whether the Government have called for any tenders for the machinery in India and other countries besides England; and

(d) whether the road from Erode to Mettur is being repaired at a very high cost so as to make it fit for the carriage of heavy machinery?

A.—(a) The final report has not yet been received by Government. It is understood that the Special Officer has submitted it to the Chief Engineer who will no doubt send it on as soon as possible.

(b) No.

(c) It is assumed that the question refers only to the special concrete-placing machinery which constituted the subject of Mr. Roberts' deputation to England. The fact that enquiries were being made for that particular class of machinery was communicated to His Majesty's Trade Commissioner in India who advertised the fact in India, and the High Commissioner for India was apprised of the fact and furnished Mr. Roberts with a list of firms specializing in such machinery the High Commissioner having under him a department specially organized for furnishing information and advice on such subjects. These firms,

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which included American and German concerns, were visited (through their branches or agencies in London) by Mr. Roberts who explained to them in detail what was required, and eventually obtained preliminary provisional tenders from a number of firms. Various designs of concrete-placing machinery have been examined by Mr. Roberts and it is understood that he will advise the adoption of a certain type, for which he has received provisional tenders from two firms. If the Government after examination approve of the proposals, the High Commissioner for India will be asked to get a final quotation from the firm whose design has been approved.

It will be realized that the ordinary process of calling for tenders at the outset was not possible in this case because it was only after a scrutiny of the various designs that the experts could decide which was most suitable, and until then a description of what was required could not be given in sufficient detail to enable firms to tender. In the case of all plant with the exception of the concrete-placing machinery, e.g., quarrying plant, crushers, electric power-house, etc., it is proposed to follow the plan of calling for tenders through the Stores Department or the High Commissioner.

- (d) The road from Erode to Mettur is intended to carry heavy machinery and is being made of a suitable standard. It is, for the greater part, being reconstructed and not merely repaired, and the cost, which is estimated at about 6 lakhs, includes provision for a 3-span bridge and a very large number of culverts.

MR. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR :—"As regards (b), Sir, the Government say that they have not decided to publish the report. May I know whether it is because it has not yet been received, or whether Government have decided finally that even if it is received, it should not be published?"

THE HON. SIR C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—"It is only because we have not yet received it. When we receive it, having regard to the amount of interest that has been taken by the House, in all probability, we shall publish it, omitting certain particulars that may relate to the names of firms and all that kind of information."

MR. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR :—"As regards clause (c), it is stated in the first sentence that this officer went to England on deputation only for the purpose of this concrete-placing machinery. May I take it, then, Sir, that he was sent to England from here only for that purpose and that he was not asked to look into any other machinery?"

THE HON. SIR C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—"At one time there was an idea that he should examine the question of machinery in general. Finally, however, Government made up their mind that he might confine his attention to this question of concrete-placing machinery. He, of course, spent his spare time in examining other types of machinery, though not with a view to purchase, with a view to possible advice."

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Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR :—" May I know when the decision was arrived at, whether it was before he left India, or during his voyage or after his arrival in England ? "

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—" Before he arrived in England, the decision has been arrived at and it was communicated to him."

Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR :—" May I have, Sir, some idea as the price of this special concrete-placing machinery ? "

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—" It may be between Rs. 45 and Rs. 50 lakhs."

Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR :—" Each or as a whole ? "

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—" There is only one machine.

The idea underlying the machine is this : There is a tower and there is a receptacle which communicates with machinery by which big plums of rock and cement are mixed together and there is another portion of the machine which transfers that mixture of cement and rock to the particular place on the dam site where it is to be dumped. That is the concrete-placing machinery."

Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR :—" Have the Government any idea of the freight for this huge machinery ? "

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—" The present idea is that including freight, duty and everything it will be Rs. 45 to Rs. 50 lakhs, as against the original estimate of Rs. 60 13 lakhs "

Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR :—" May I know, Sir, whether the Government have finally decided that no lime and marble should be used ? "

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—" No, Sir, that decision has not been arrived at."

Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR :—" So far as this special deputation and the report are concerned, has there been any other consideration regarding the decision of this concrete question ? "

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—" The position as to that is this. While several dams, not comparable in size to the Mettur dam, have been constructed of late, it has been brought to our notice that in most of the dams constructed very recently within the last seven or eight years in other countries, cement has been used. Certain considerations, however, on the other side, have been urged both on the floor of this House and by various other agencies which have been taking a great deal of interest in this matter officially and unofficially. The whole question therefore of cement *versus* lime is to be given careful consideration and scrutiny by the Government. Government will have to make up their mind, and if they think cement is preferable, they will adopt cement, and in that case, this particular machinery will be useful. If they do not think so, then they will have to consider what other apparatus will be necessary."

Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR :—" In view, Sir, of a number of questions being raised at the time of the budget and probability of these questions not being discussed for want of time, all congratulations to the hon. the Law Member—may we know . . ."

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The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—"I was not aware, Sir, that I was entitled to those congratulations; but my hon. Friend knows more than I do."

Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR :—"I want to know, Sir, whether the Government can kindly give us some time to discuss this question in this House apart from the consideration of the question at the time of the budget discussion, itself—I mean this question of concrete *versus* lime."

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—"I do not follow it. The question has been raised in the form of certain token cuts, and I think also regarding the complete deletion of the money for this project. I suppose, however, that the project will go on. But whatever that may be, it appears to me that if hon. Members desire discussion on that matter, a discussion can easily be facilitated. I, for one, will place absolutely no obstacle in the way of a full discussion on that matter at Budget time. I do not see, apart from Budget time, how and where the discussion can arise, because the Council does not meet till July or August next."

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—"I do not see how the question whether a debate can be arranged can arise out of the answers given to this question. It is a matter on which, if there is no objection on the part of either the hon. Member or the hon. Member in charge of the portfolio, they can easily talk over and arrange between themselves."

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—"I beg your pardon, Sir, but I do not want to foresee the course of business. I was asked whether having regard to the possibility of a Budget debate on this question not being reached . . ."

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—"I have ruled that such supplemental questions are not in order."

Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR :—"May I know, Sir, whether this special officer got tenders only from two firms, and if so, to what countries these firms belong?"

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—"One firm certainly is a British firm. I do not know anything about the other firm. But it will appear from the answer that preliminary tenders were obtained from a number of firms including English, American and German firms."

Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR :—"From the last line in the first paragraph, Sir, is it to be understood that only one firm's quotation has been approved?"

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—"The preliminary report of Mr. Roberts advocates that. But that question has not yet received the consideration of Government, nor have they come to any decision on that matter."

Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR :—"May I ask whether in view of what has been stated, after the decision is arrived at as to the concrete-placing machinery, is it not the intention of Government to ask the High Commissioner to arrange only with one firm, and his decision will be final?"

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The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—" If we agree with the proposals of Mr. Roberts. That is entirely a matter for consideration."

Rao Bahadur C. S. RATNASABAPATI MUDALIYAR :—" May I know whether the concrete-placing machinery which would cost about Rs. 45 lakhs, can be utilized for any other purpose after the Mettur dam is constructed ? "

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—" I suppose the dam is expected to take about three years for actual execution. If we get the machine and if the decision is in favour of getting it, it will be got about September or October this year and the work will be started and it will be three years before the preliminary work will be completed and within that period, I take it that the Irrigation Member who succeeds me, or the Irrigation Minister, as the case may be, will have other programmes of irrigation and as to the construction of other dams and this machinery may be utilized for that purpose."

Rao Bahadur C. S. RATNASABAPATI MUDALIYAR :—" May I know whether this machine which will be a second-hand one after use in Mettur will commit us to the construction of any other scheme by Government saying 'after having purchased this machine at 45 lakhs, it should not be sold and that it should be utilized for this scheme or that' ? "

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—" The hon. Member from Coimbatore is not apparently serious and I do not propose to answer this question."

Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR :—" As regards (a), I would like to know whether the Superintending Engineer, Mr. Bhaskara Ayyar, did not recommend that the costly construction of this big road may be kept pending till the question of the new railway was decided."

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—" The railway has been decided upon. The railway company has arrived at the conclusion of opening a railway from Mettur to Salem."

Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR :—" In view of this, may I ask Government whether this scheme costing 6 lakhs for the repair and reconstruction of this road for the use of the machinery, may not be undertaken by the railway ? "

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—" That point will be noticed."

Drainage difficulties of the mirasidars of Sengalipuram.

* 387 Q—Mr. S. MUTTAYYA MUDALIYAR : Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(a) what action has been taken by the Government on the memorial of the mirasidars of No. 102, Sengalipuram, Nannilam taluk, about their drainage difficulties ; and

(b) when the Government propose to excavate the new drainage channel, which was approved as early as 1908 ?

A.—(a) The Board of Revenue to which the memorial was referred has not yet submitted its report.

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- (b) The attention of the hon. Member is invited to the answer given to question No. 1162 asked at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on 17th December 1925. The Chief Engineer has been asked to report whether the works mentioned in the answer to clause (b) of that question have been carried out, and, if so, what the result was.

Proposal for new constructions at Lower Anicut.

* 388 Q.—Mr. S. MUTTAYYA MUDALIYAR: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(a) what are the new constructions proposed to be made or already made at the Lower Anicut for the improvement of irrigation facilities and prevention of damages by floods;

(b) whether any bridges or bridgeways intended to be constructed in the village of Vinayakantheru or nearby;

(c) whether any memorials have been received by the Collector of Tanjore objecting to the construction of such bridges; and

(d) what action has been taken or is proposed to be taken thereon?

A.—(a) The attention of the hon. Member is invited to items 30 to 33 on page 29 of the detailed irrigation budget for 1927-28.

(b), (c) & (d) A detailed estimate amounting to Rs. 8.16 lakhs (for 'works') has just been sanctioned for improvements to the Lower Coleroon Anicut—item 30 mentioned in the answer to clause (a)—for providing eight new vents on the north side and two vents on the south side of the south branch of the Coleroon. The points raised in the memorial to the Collector of which a copy was submitted to the Chief Engineer were considered before the scheme was sanctioned. The proposed improvements are necessary to give more room for the river near its centre and to provide additional water-way to dispose of floods—an advantage which will far outweigh the disadvantages involved by the encroachment on the island. Adequate compensation under the Land Acquisition Act will be paid for the property affected.

Irrigation schemes in Kistna delta.

* 389 Q.—The ZAMINDAR OF GOLLAPALLI: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether there is a proposal to open a new lock in Bandar canal to supply water to Ilur and Lankapalli and other villages of Kistna;

(b) whether there is a proposal to open a new lock in Ellore canal (after the improvement of shutters of Kistna anicut) and to take a canal to irrigate some villages west of Ellore canal;

(c) whether there is a proposal to build an anicut at Amaravati to the abovesaid purpose;

(d) if so whether the schemes are under contemplation of the Government; what are their courses and how many acres they would irrigate; and

(e) if the proposals have been abandoned, the cause therefor?

A.—The Government have no information but have called for a report,

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The ZAMINDAR OF GOLLAPALLI :—" Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state whether there is a scheme to supply water from the Kistna river to some taluks of Kistna district which are not now under the deltaic system."

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—" I want notice of that question ; but I may say that there are certain locks now constructed at Bandar and Ellore."

The ZAMINDAR OF GOLLAPALLI :—" Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state whether any enquiry will be made ?"

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—" If my hon. Friend will give me particulars as to what he desires to be done, I will have an enquiry initiated on the matters which he wants to be looked into."

The ZAMINDAR OF GOLLAPALLI :—" May I request the hon. Member whether there is any possibility of supplying water from the Kistna from or about Ibrahimpetta to the non-deltaic portions of Bezvada and Nuzvid taluk where there is scarcity of water-supply ?"

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" This is not the time for making requests to Government. A supplementary question is to be put."

The ZAMINDAR OF GOLLAPALLI :—" I ask whether the Government will be pleased to institute any enquiry on the matter."

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—" As I already said, if my hon. Friend would be so good as to give me particulars in this matter, I shall have enquiries instituted."

The hon. the PRESIDENT : " I think courtesy to the House requires that hon. Members who have given notices of questions should try to be in their places at the time when their questions are called, since previous notice is being given that these questions will be answered. I think great inconvenience is caused if the Members are not in time to put questions ; and courtesy to the House requires that they should be in their places at the proper time. I hope that Members will not force the President to change the system now existing by their constant absence from their places at the proper time."

UNSTARRED QUESTIONS

Medical Administration

Formation of a Board of Indian Medicine

390 Q—Mr. A. KALESWARA RAO : Will the hon. Minister for Public Health be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that the Indian Medical Association of Madras requested by its resolution of 22nd December 1926, that the Government should form a Board of Indian Medicine mainly consisting of well known physicians of Indian medicine on the lines of the one established by the Government of the United Provinces, to advise the Government on matters regarding the organization and development of Indian medicine, to prescribe courses of study for examinations, to conduct all examinations in Indian medicine, to confer certificates, diplomas and degrees and to do other similar things ; and

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(b) what action the Government has taken or proposes to take in the matter ?

A.—(a) A resolution on the subject passed by the Indian Medical Association at its meeting held on 22nd September 1926 has been communicated to the Government.

(b) The question is under consideration.

Education

Exemption for sons of elementary school teachers from fees.

391 Q.—Mr. A. KALESWARA RAO: Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether representations have come to Government from teachers of elementary schools requesting them to exempt their children from paying school fees up to the school-final class; and

(b) whether the Government propose to grant the above concession ?

A.—(a) Yes.

(b) No.

Minor Irrigation

Grant for, and expenditure on, irrigation works from 1922—26.

392 Q.—Sriman BISWANATH DAS Mahasayo: Will the hon. Member for Revenue be pleased to state the amounts of money granted and also the amounts of money spent in each of the four years from 1st April 1922 to 1st April 1926 in—

(a) constructing new irrigation works;

(b) repairing irrigation works of all kinds; and

(c) repairing minor irrigation works ?

A.—The information is given below :—

	(a) Constructing new irrigation works.		(b) Repairing irrigation works.		(c) Repairing minor irrigation works.	
	Allotment.	Expendi- ture.	Allotment.	Expendi- ture.	Allotment.	Expendi- ture.
	RS. (LAKHS)	RS. (LAKHS)	RS. (LAKHS)	RS. (LAKHS)	RS. (LAKHS)	RS. (LAKHS)
1922-23..	7.81	7.43	26.38	36.06	8.51	8.08
1923-24..	9.16	8.67	41.57	41.62	9.66	9.38
1924-25..	9.05	8.45	64.51	65.12	9.43	9.73
1925-26..	23.77	23.51	57.29	56.88	9.96	9.72

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II

COMMUNICATIONS TO THE COUNCIL.

The Secretary then laid on the table copies of the *proceedings of the ninth meeting of the Finance Committee for 1926-27 held on Thursday the 3rd March 1927.

III

[*Note.*—An asterisk (*) at the commencement of a speech indicates revision by the Member.]

MOTIONS ON THE BUDGET FOR 1927-28.

DEMAND VI—IRRIGATION—CIVIL OFFICERS—*cont.*

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—“The Council will now resume the debate on the motion of Mr. Adinarayana Chettiyar for the reduction of the allotment of Rs. 13,27,200 for Minor Irrigation by Rs. 100.”

* Mr. R. SRINIVASA AYYANGAR :—“Mr. President, Sir, I endorse every remark that fell from the lips of some of the speakers regarding the question of the inadequacy of the allotment under this head. It seems to me, Sir, that the Government have so far forgotten their duty in respect of putting in order these minor irrigation works, with a view to make them subserve the needs of the people. It is a matter of common knowledge that in this Presidency there are as many as 30,000 tanks, not to speak of the several supply channels. Though the actual allotment under this head comes to 13.32 lakhs, the establishment charges come to a little over 2.30 lakhs, leaving only about 11 lakhs and odd for maintenance and repairs. Distributing this amount over 26 districts, each district cannot hope to get on an average more than about Rs. 30,000 or Rs. 40,000. And so far as our district of South Arcot is concerned, there are a large number of irrigation tanks, over 2,000, and if this figure is to be accepted as substantially correct, as representing the intentions of the Government and as showing the extent to which the Government are prepared to go to the rescue of these ryots, it only works out on an average to about Rs. 4½ a tank. It seems to me, Sir, that the time has come for the Government to frame a more, vigorous and satisfactory policy in this matter. The allotment is really poor, and we all know, as a matter of fact, that most of these irrigation tanks do not now serve the object in view by reason of some of them remaining silted up and also overgrown with prickly pear and other growth. I know for a fact and I also see from the representations of some of the ryots in my district that for many years past, some of these tanks have been entirely neglected by the Revenue Department. I understand that the Revenue Department has recently been busy in asking the people to carry on kudimaramat, more to cover their neglect of this work for very many years. The Government must realize their paramount duty not only to maintain but to keep in good order a very large number of works. I know for a fact that these minor irrigation works are mainly intended to irrigate an area of about 250 acres which could be commanded by one tank. I know for a fact that on account of the failure of north-east monsoon most of these tanks failed to receive the supply of water which they have been accustomed to receive with the result that it threw upon the ryots the extra burden of spending a large amount of money in order to get the necessary supply by means of baling. It is nobody's case that the land irrigated by these minor irrigation works are revenue free or that there is any considerable or substantial reduction of any revenue. The lands still commanded by these tanks are also compelled to pay much the same amount of revenue

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though, doubtless, in a few cases, by reason of their being placed in clause 3 or 4 as the case may be, they are liable to pay a small amount. The Government have no justification in allowing the whole of their time and energy being concentrated upon major works neglecting these minor irrigation schemes. So far as these schemes are concerned, in my humble opinion, there ought to be some kind of general survey as well. Moreover, when small sums are allotted or assigned to particular districts, not unnaturally the Collectors feel that because of the small allotment no useful purpose would be served by their sending up more estimates or making more efforts in this direction. Unless there is the possibility of their requests being carefully and sympathetically viewed, it is too much to expect these officers to fight the Government and go before them with large schemes in respect of a large number of minor irrigation works which are likely to commit the Government to a large extent. Therefore, it is up to the Government to come forward with a bold and forward policy and spend a large amount of money wherever a large number of works are to be restored to their former condition. It is necessary to restore them to their former condition with a view to serve the objects for which they were primarily intended. Once more, before I resume my seat, I would like to emphasize the necessity of the Government paying greater attention to this subject than before."

Mr. J. KUPPUSWAMI:—" Mr. President, I have given notice of a similar motion, with a view to discuss the need for more expenditure on the repair and construction of minor irrigation sources. The amount that has been hitherto spent on those minor irrigation works is not at all sufficient for the pressing needs of the ryots of my district. In preparing estimates beforehand, the Revenue authorities are not taking proper steps to satisfy the needs of the ryots under tanks in the outlying parts of the district. The estimates are not properly scrutinized and the sum that has been spent is not at all sufficient. I would therefore urge that special consideration ought to be shown in the matter of grants to minor irrigation. I need not emphasize the importance of minor irrigation and the large help that its improvement would render in the matter of the amelioration of the lot of ryots under minor irrigation tanks. With these few words, I support the motion."

* Mr. Chavadi K. SUBRAHMANYA PILLAI:—" Mr. President, Sir, I support the motion of my hon. Friend Mr. Adinarajana Chettiyar. My object of supporting the motion is this. 11-46 a.m.

" I do not know how it is in other districts ; but in Tinnevely district, the practice is very usual of levying contributions from the ryots interested to meet the cost of repairs to the minor irrigation tanks. Contributions of one-fourth, one-third, and sometimes even one-half of the cost of repairs has been demanded by the Revenue authorities. The Revenue officials are not unaware of the objectionable nature of this levy. They therefore take consent statements from the ryots, sometimes as offers of voluntary contributions. Petitions for urgent repairs result in an official enquiry whether the petitioners are willing to contribute towards the cost of repairs. The lesson that is enforced is that the petitions of only those who are willing to contribute will be attended to. The tanks of those who contribute are taken up first for repairs. Those who are unable or unwilling to contribute have to wait and wait and their turn will never reach. The wet ayacuts served by all these minor irrigation tanks pay substantial and sometimes heavy

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assessments. The Government are in duty bound to keep the Irrigation sources in good repairs. They shirk and evade this duty and virtually enhance the assessments by insisting upon these so-called voluntary contributions. The practice of these contributions is odious and highly objectionable. The Government not only neglect their duty but penalise the very ryots whom they have injured by such neglect. This matter is really very serious and I do not know how far the Government are aware of the prevalence of this odious system of levying contributions. I hope that strict instructions will be issued to the District Officers to make a report as to the extent to which this system of levying contributions has been prevalent and wherever this practice has prevailed, the District Officers will be asked to stop it and to insist upon their subordinates to make estimates of all the repairs every year, so that the repairs may be carried out by the Government at Government expense."

* Mr C. N. MUTHURANGA MUDALIYAR :—"Mr. President, Sir, I rise to support this motion because I have also given notice of a similar motion just to draw the attention of the Government to the very inadequate irrigation facilities that are found in my district. From the records I find there are two irrigation sources, the Palar Ancient system and the Chembarambakkam tank. Sir, recently I find that the Commissioner of the Corporation in his anxiety to find a source of water for the City of Madras. . . ."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—"The hon. Member may be pleased to note that minor irrigation is in charge of the hon. the Revenue Member and major irrigation in charge of the hon. the Law Member. This demand concerns minor irrigation alone and the reply has to be given by the hon. the Revenue Member. I think it will be more convenient to the House if remarks regarding major works such as the Red Hills reservoir and the like are reserved for discussion on the major irrigation works."

* The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—"As a matter of fact, very early in the next demand the matter is to be dealt with."

* Mr C. N. MUTHURANGA MUDALIYAR :—"I never intended to refer to the Red Hills but I simply brought that in as an analogy. However, I shall proceed. I wish to say that the Chembarambakkam tank is almost dry. The tank is full only once in, say, four or five years. Also, Sir, the Palar Ancient system, where I have not found water for the past ten years, is a poor irrigation source. The Tank Restoration Society, I do not know if they are functioning in my district also. (A voice : 'Nowhere'). My hon. Friend says 'nowhere' I do not know that. In my district, I do not think the Tank Restoration Society is doing any work at all. The district consists of many small irrigation tanks always devoid of water but when abnormal rain sets in in any particular year many of the tanks run away and even then, the ryots are deprived of the water that they are otherwise entitled to. So I simply want to draw the attention of the Government to take some little interest at least in the irrigation works of my district, peculiar as its conditions are."

* Rao Sahib S. ELLAPPA CHETTIYAR :—"Mr. President, Sir, I beg to support the motion. It is a well-known fact that the district of Salem is badly in need of irrigation facilities. The area of the district is larger than some of the districts in the Presidency and there are a number of rivers which can be tapped and plenty of waste lands are available for converting into tanks. With all these facilities, the district can boast of only very few small tanks. I do not know why this district has been neglected even in this respect as

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[Mr. S. Ellappa Chettiyar]

has been neglected in all other respects. I now draw the attention of the Government that immediate steps should be taken to investigate into this matter and more irrigation works should be started. Now coming to the existing tanks, most of them are entirely neglected, silted up, grown with vegetation, and bunds broken. This is really a sad affair to look at. I suppose these tanks are intended both for irrigation purposes and for helping the villages to improve drinking water-supply. If they are left out without being well attended to, I am afraid they may not serve a useful purpose. If they are kept in good condition and water is made to stop for some months in the year the water scarcity which is now existing would have been relieved to some extent. Instead of spending crores and crores on one project and for the benefit of one district, a programme may be drawn up for ten years or so and, about a lakh of rupees per year for each district is provided for these minor irrigation works, I hope the whole Presidency within 10 or 20 years will become more useful and more fertile than it is now. By this process the ryot population who is paying the major portion of the revenue of this Province will be benefited both for getting water for irrigation and for drinking purposes. I hope the hon. the Revenue Member will consider my suggestion and try to improve the minor irrigation works in future at least. I know that if the number of tanks is increased the cost of maintaining them would increase. But the extra recurring expenditure may be well met out of the revenue which will be correspondingly increased. So the Government will not be put to any additional expenditure but at the same time this programme of works will go very much to improve the economic condition of the ryot population. With these words, I support the motion."

* Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—" Mr. President, Sir, I am afraid Government does not realise, as it ought to do, the importance of minor irrigation works. Otherwise they would have surely, instead of decreasing the allotment this year, increased it. I find it stands at 13 lakhs this year, whereas in the previous year it was 19 lakhs and in 1923-24, it was 21 lakhs, if my memory serves me right. In any case, we are on the decreasing line. There was a time when I believe the question of the irrigation of wells was drawn attention to by such an eminent man as Sir Alfred Chatterton. In 1912 he drew the attention of the Government to the importance of irrigation of wells and Government spending more money than they were doing. He also pointed out that in the Statistical Atlas of India the total irrigated area was said to be 28 million acres of which ten million acres or more than one-third were entirely dependent upon water from wells and so on. That proportion still stands, Sir, and I would request Government to pay more attention to this subject than till now. On the West Coast for the last 100 years, I do not think Government have practically spent a single pie even in restoring old tanks and old reservoirs built by former chiefs. There is absolutely no allotment for this purpose for South Kanara, while Government thinks that we are very leniently treated in the matter of the levy of assessment. That statement I shall disprove at a later stage. But, for the present, I would urge that minor irrigation works be started in South Kanara and Malabar by enclosing the large number of gorges between hills. This can be done as is shown in the evidence before the Irrigation Commission by very small embankments which will not cost much. There are great facilities in South Kanara and West Coast for this purpose. We have got deep hollows between two or three hills with a small narrow

[Mr. J. A. Saldanha]

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passage in the middle which can be closed by bunds or embankments at a small cost and thereby a large area could be provided with water. Besides, in South Kanara we see a large number of embankments by villagers, but new embankments cannot be erected without the change of law. Unfortunately for us, the amendment which I had brought to enable Government or the Collector to give permission to the villagers to build embankments have been knocked on the head because the Irrigation Bill has gone, I do not know whereto. (Laughter.) If that enactment had been passed into law by this time it would enable Government to give permission to the embankments being built. But I hope Government will at least take up this question at an early date by passing a smaller Bill. I am afraid that the big Bill which the hon. the Law Member will bring will never have a chance of being passed."

* Mr. R. NAGAN GOWDA :—"In discussing the policy of the Government with regard to minor irrigation, I want to suggest this that at present only the surface water is used by these minor irrigation facilities by means of reservoirs and tanks. I want to suggest that there is another large supply of water in the sub-soil that could also be used for irrigation purposes.

"I want to suggest this because in some parts of the Ceded Districts minor irrigation works such as tanks, reservoirs and canals are impossible. Only wells are possible. Even this year, Sir, when the rainfall has been very small, one could find water here and there in small wells that can support and are supporting small areas of land to grow vegetables and other garden crops.

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noon

"But these wells, Sir, are not efficient at present. With the primitive methods of digging wells, we can go down only some 40 or 50 or 80 feet. But the water accumulated at this level is not very much. The wells usually become dry by the time the hot weather sets in.

"But there are now improved methods by which water 200 feet beneath the surface can be tapped. I notice the hon. the Minister for Development in his reply to the Royal Commission on Agriculture stated that in this dry areas they ought to have deep tube wells and bore wells pumped by engines which can be taken care of by the Government mechanics. They could have ten, fifteen or more wells at a place and an engineer appointed to take care of them. Under a scheme like that, well irrigation could possibly with great advantage both to the Government and to the people be included under minor irrigation."

* Mr. K. KOTI REDDI :—"Mr. President, Sir, this is one of the items on which there has been year in and year out any amount of criticism which has had no effect on the hon. the Revenue Member. Sir, it is rather a bit confusing that minor works have been divided into two classes, those that are managed by the Revenue Department and those that are managed by the Public Works Department, and as such we really have not an idea as to the importance these minor works play in the irrigation of this Presidency. Sir, with regard to the revenue that we derive from the minor works, i.e., works that are classed as works for which no capital or revenue account is kept, it is as much as, I think it is even a bit more than, what we really get from the works for which capital and revenue accounts are kept. On page 133 of the Administration Report for 1925, it is made clear that the revenue we get from irrigation works for which no capital and revenue accounts are

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[Mr. K. Koti Reddi]

kept is Rs. 99 and odd lakhs, whereas from the other works it is about Rs. 91 and odd lakhs, and the number of acres that are irrigated under the former come to more than 3 million, so the same being the number of acres irrigated under the other productive works. That shows the amount of importance that the Government ought to attach to them, i.e., minor works in this Presidency. When we exclude the amount of money allotted for establishment, the amount of money provided for the maintenance and repairs of these works is really too small. Wherever you go into the villages at least into the villages of the district from which I come from, there is a complaint that the Government practically neglect the minor irrigation works. These works are works on which Government have spent very little in the shape of capital for their construction the Government are really only trying to maintain those works which are already established by previous rulers, and they are deriving a large amount of income from them, and, as I said, as much income as on big irrigation works, on which they have spent large sums of money in the shape of capital. We should realize that these irrigation works, particularly minor irrigation works, are intended not only for supplying the irrigational needs of the people but also for serving a very important purpose which is as much vital as irrigation to the people, namely, for conserving the water for drinking not only for cattle but also for human beings in most places. Besides, you are aware that in some of those dry tracts, a good deal of irrigation is being done under wells, and we know from the statistics that the number of acres irrigated under wells comes to nearly one-third of the total area irrigated, and a good many of these wells are dependent for their supply on the conservation of water in the small tanks near by. As such, I think any amount of money that may be spent not only for the maintenance and repair of these tanks but also in constructing new works is money that is never wasted by the Government. Although we find some provision has been made for maintenance and repairs, etc., very little provision has been made for new works, particularly for minor irrigation works. I find only a small sum of Rs. 50,000 for new works. Do the Government mean that there is really no need for constructing any more new works in the villages? Everywhere the complaint is that if a little amount of money is spent, they could have a small reservoir which will be very useful. Yet, this year, in a year when there is great scarcity for water and when people are suffering from famine conditions, and when we expect that some adequate provision will be made for new construction under minor irrigation, what is the provision made? It is only Rs. 55,000, if I am not mistaken, and what fraction of it the Collectors and others are going to allot out of this for giving employment to labourers, etc., I cannot say."

* Mr. B. RAMACHANDRA REDDI:—"Mr. President, Sir, I support this motion to discuss the inadequate provision made for the minor irrigation works. A very small provision has been made in the budget under discussion, and this has also been pointed out by me during the general discussion on the budget. I now go to show certain examples in connexion with minor works which substantially go to prove that Government have not taken any interest in improving these works at all. In my district, there are several tanks that are peculiarly situated and most of them have been existing there for a very long time. Especially in the dry taluks, a number of tanks have been in disuse on account of either a breach or some other want of repair. In the Rapur taluk, there is a tank called Chittalur Ravi

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tank which is not in use on account of a breach that has taken place nearly seven or eight years ago. All these years it has not been repaired, and when the ryots wanted to repair it and even when they offered half the contribution for the repair of the tank, the Government refused to do anything. After all, the estimate for repairs does not come to Rs. 8,000, and when the ryots are prepared to give Rs. 4,000 the Government are not prepared to give the remaining amount; on the other hand, the unkindest out of all is that the Government have said that they will neither repair the tank nor would they allow the ryots to repair it. This is an example which goes to prove the lack of interest the Government is showing towards the interests of the ryots. There are several other tanks, for instance, the tank at Devaravemur, which has been in disrepair for fifty years, and all these years the ryots have been obliged to raise some dry crops, and they had not the advantage of having wet crops. Now, a question may be asked by the hon. the Revenue Member, as to why all these years the ryots have not been agitating for such a thing. The reasons that all these years the cost of paddy has not been so much as it is now. Ten years ago, the cost of paddy was only half of what it is now. So, it is, that the interest of the ryots in raising wet crops has increased, and consequently their interest in repairing the tank also has increased. However, their cry for the repair of these tanks has been a cry in the wilderness. The Forest Department also has in some places come to encroach on these tanks. They have encroached on some tanks and brought them within the reserve forest areas there. Consequently, the ryots of the adjoining places have been denied the privilege of having the water of that particular tank. There are also some other tanks which are badly in need of a proper supply of water. Some tanks are placed in such an advantageous position that if the jungle streams are diverted into them they would have a supply. There are some tanks which have to be taken particular care of. Therefore, I am just suggesting that a five year or ten-year programme may be drawn up especially for the repair of these tanks in my district where the tanks exist in a very bad condition. They have only to be repaired. No new tanks have to be constructed. Therefore, this work of repairing alone may be done with advantage to the ryot as well as to the Government."

* Mr. K. KRISHNAN :—" Mr. President, I entirely agree with my hon. Friend Mr. Saldhana when he said that Malabar has been neglected in the matter of irrigation. It may be said that we have plenty of rainfall and as such no irrigation works are necessary. But it should not be forgotten that all the water we get in the shape of rain rushes into the sea in about two days of their fall. There is hardly anything left for conserving for agricultural purposes. The chief difficulty we labour under is want of rain at the seasonal time. Just when we want to sow the seed, we do not get rain, or there is no rain water available when seedlings sprout up. I am sure there are very many places where minor irrigation works could be taken up with advantage. In my own place, close to the town of Tellicherry, at the place called Kunduncheri I know that plans and estimates for certain works have been prepared by Government about six or seven years ago. Later nothing was heard about it. I do not know at what stage the matter is. I hope that Government will take into consideration the difficult situation in which the Malabar ryots are placed and try to help them by taking up some minor irrigation works so that the people may tide over the difficulty for want of water at the proper season."

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* Mr C. OBI REDDI :—" Mr. President, Sir, from the pages of the Administration Report for the Madras Presidency for the year 1925-26, I find that somewhere about 7,412,000 acres of land are classified as coming under wet irrigation. But out of these, somewhere about 3,800,000 acres are served by a system of irrigation classified under minor irrigation. But when we come to see the allotment of money for the minor irrigation works, it is a paltry sum of Rs. 13 lakhs and odd, out of which Rs. 2 lakhs and odd is for the maintenance of staff, and thus only a sum of Rs. 10 lakhs and odd is reserved for the purpose of the maintenance of these works.

" Sir, when about 52 to 54 per cent of the irrigated area is served by the minor irrigation works, it is really very hard to see that only 13 lakhs has been allotted for this purpose. If one turns to the budget demand for the year 1926-27, the demand for minor irrigation was Rs. 1,43,15,000, and this year it is only Rs. 13,27,200. That is, there is a sum of Rs. 1,04,000 less than what it was in the previous year. This is a very unsatisfactory state of things. If this sum of 13 lakhs available for the maintenance of minor irrigation works is to be divided among the 26 districts of this Presidency the quota each taluk of the Presidency will get, will not be more than Rs. 4,000. 12-15 p.m.

" Again, Sir, when the question of appropriation of this amount for the maintenance of minor irrigation works comes into operation, Government must see not to an equal distribution of the amount between the several districts but to an equitable distribution commensurate with the needs of each district. The district of Anantapur, a dry district—not in the sense of the Excise department—boasted of about 2,500 tanks, big and small. If you just look into the statistical atlases of the period ending with 1913, you will find there were only 1,323 tanks, of which as many as 76 had fallen into disrepair and ruin. Again, coming down ten years later, in the decennium ending with the year 1923, there were only 1,179 tanks of which 13 were in disrepair. Thus within a period of ten years, as many as 144 tanks got out of use. That is to say, the ryots have been denied the benefit of these 144 tanks. But what is the condition of the tanks that are now supposed to be useful to the ryots? Many of them are silted up, and many are leaky. And in this connexion, I want just to draw the attention of Government to the recommendations of the Ceded Districts Irrigation Committee, which was presided over by no less a gentleman than the hon. the third Minister, an expert in the Engineering department. The committee said, ' We recommend that larger maintenance grants must be given for the minor irrigation works ' and this is what they say as regards spring channels, ' We recommend that instructions be issued to the officers concerned that the rules about kudimaramat should be liberally interpreted and in the case of large works which are beyond the means of the ryots to execute, the Government must undertake to execute them.' These are the recommendations made by the Irrigation Committee. In view of the fact that there are as many as 1,179 tanks in the district, a larger sum than what was hitherto allotted should be allotted to the district of Anantapur. It is not an equal distribution that I ask for but an equitable distribution. This is a district which is dry and it must be the intention of the Government to make it a little bit wet, wet not in the sense of excise, but in the sense of improving the irrigation facilities."

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* **Mr. K. MADHAVAN NAYAR** :—"After the speeches of two of my hon. Friends, Mr. Krishnan and Mr Saldanha, the case of Malabar needs no further speeches at all and I would not have risen but for the fact that Malabar is neglected in the matter of irrigation and that a little too much of hammering will not be out of place. Malabar is a district, Sir, which suffers a little too much from good reputation. It has no famine, crops never fail there, there is no drought, no seasonal difficulties, and according to some enactments of the Government and rules framed thereunder, I mean the Survey and Boundaries Act, waste lands are as good as dry lands and dry lands as good as wet lands. But this picture that is drawn of Malabar, the paradise which it is made to appear to be, is certainly not what the people of Malabar experience it to be. For we see, as a matter of fact, many people from Malabar serving as and occupying the wretched position of menials in the households and restaurants of Madras rather than remaining in that blissful paradise. The fact is that at one time we had no such difficulty. We had rains in time and there was no trouble either from drought or failure of crops. But for some years past, the rains are most irregular; we do not get rain in time, and when it comes it never rains but it pours. That is the position we find ourselves in for some time past. The Government might spend some portion of the amount of Rs. 35 lakhs that they collect from us, as land revenue upon some minor irrigation works in Malabar. There are taluks like Ponnani, Walluvanad and Palghat which repeatedly suffer from absence of rainfall. Some schemes have been proposed by Government, but none has fructified so far. We have suffered from drought this year. Our cries are as cries in the wilderness. If only Government will spend some portion of the money they collect from Malabar upon irrigation works, to conserve and preserve the water that falls into it in abundance the condition of Malabar will be very much improved."

* **Mr. L. K. TULASIRAM** :—"Mr. President, if I rise to speak on this subject, it is in connexion with the improvement and restoration of the tanks in the Madura district. It is well-known that the Periyar has been designed to irrigate only 130,000 acres. Now the actual number of acres under the Periyar system of irrigation is 1,12,000 and odd."

* **The hon. the PRESIDENT** :—"The hon. Member is referring to major works. I wish to know from the hon. the Revenue Member whether the Periyar works do come under minor works."

* **The hon. Mr. N. E. MARJORIBANKS** :—"No, Sir."

* **The hon. the PRESIDENT** :—"The hon Member will confine himself to minor works."

* **Mr. L. K. TULASIRAM** :—"Now, speaking about the minor irrigation tanks which depend on the Periyar for their supply, the Government have been doing away with all the smaller tanks. These minor tanks have been turned into fields and given to the cultivators. It is really felt that the small tanks in the Madura district should be kept intact, so that in times of scarcity like the present year they may be supplied with water and the people may not be put to the necessity of depending on major works. The policy of the Government was to assign these minor tanks in the Madura district, to ex-service men. In order to satisfy their claims, a lot of tanks of

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very small dimensions have been made over to ex-military men. I only request that this policy of handing over lands covered by these tanks be stopped and the tanks be restored to their original condition."

* Mr. G. HARISARVOTTAMA RAO :—"Mr. President, Sir, as I stand to support this motion, I remember an old story. There was a man, a poor man like me, and he went to a miser and asked him how he should use ghee. The miser said, 'Sniff at it, you shall be satisfied.' He was not satisfied with the answer and so he went to a second man, and he said, 'Look at it, and you will be satisfied.' The Ceded districts are in a similar situation. Grand projects are in the air, they have not fructified and there is not much chance of their fructification. Small schemes are held up in the name of grander schemes, and when we come to minor irrigation works, we are told very seriously that tanks do not deserve any consideration because it is impossible to make any headway with the repair of tanks. My district is, in part, a district of tanks, my district is, in part, a district of wells. Unless the Government is prepared to consider seriously the question of tanks and wells and carry out the necessary improvements to them, I am afraid we shall ever be in the position of that poor man who went for advice to the miser. The Government have been behaving towards us in the most miserly fashion. I know poor people are told that they deserve to go to the wall. That is the law of the world. But if the Government think that that should be the law that should apply to us in the Ceded districts we may as well be relieved of being under a rule that thinks of us in that fashion. If the Government contend that we are under their rule and if they contend that our contentment is their outlook I shall particularly be glad if there is a statement made on the floor of this House as to what their attitude is towards minor irrigation schemes in my district, and the Ceded districts as a whole. Whenever the question is raised as to tank restoration schemes, very poor replies are given. We are told, Sir, that the Irrigation Commission recommended that every year about 13 lakhs should be spent upon tank restoration schemes, and to a query in this House the reply was given that during certain years, because there was war and there was disturbance of economic conditions, money could not be spent sufficiently on tank restoration schemes. What is it that I see from the figures in this budget? The whole minor irrigation expenditure comes to about 13 lakhs. May I take it, Sir, that tank restoration works at least will be vigorously pushed through, wherever necessary?

"May I also ask whether the Government has considered the feasibility of improving the supply of tanks through jungle channels, as was very pertinently drawn attention to by one of my predecessors in this debate. I was told in reply to a question, that so far as supply channels to tanks and other questions were concerned, the advice that was given to the Government was against us. I requested that I might be given an opportunity of looking into the advice and I was told that the hon. Member in charge would consider the matter. So far I have received no reply to the question; I have received no information whatsoever. Therefore I feel it, Sir, my bounden duty, in the interests of the district to which I belong, that I should raise a voice of protest against the way in which minor irrigation is being attended to."

* Diwan Bahadur M. KRISHNAN NAYAR :—"I wish to associate myself with all that feel from the lips of my hon. Friends Messrs. K. Krishnan and 12-30 p.m.

[Mr. M. Krishnan Nayar]

[18th March 1927]

K. Madhavan Nayar regarding irrigation in Malabar. There is an idea abroad that, as Malabar gets a large quantity of rainfall in the south-west monsoon, it is a district flowing with milk and honey. That idea, Sir, is wrong. The Government no doubt have not been pleased till now to grant us any major irrigation work and, although we want them we shall be satisfied if they grant us some minor irrigation works at least and if they effect repairs to the small minor irrigation works that exist. For instance in Ponnani taluk there are some works which prevent the ingress of salt water into the paddy fields and because these works have not been well repaired salt water invades the paddy fields and the crops that stand over a comparatively large area are damaged. One such work, viz., the Viyam dam, was repaired about two years ago and as soon as the repairs were completed, it fell into disrepair. The present condition of it is very much worse than it was before the repairs were carried out, about two years ago. The result is that crops are considerably damaged. I believe the Collector of Malabar recently visited the locality and got himself acquainted with the condition of affairs. So that if my hon. Friend the Revenue Member will make a reference to the Collector of Malabar he will get the necessary information. I hope that before the time for the next paddy season comes, it will be repaired properly. The people of Ponnani are suffering on account of the disrepair of this work and in other parts of Malabar also there are such works to be repaired."

* The hon. Mr. N. E. MARJORIBANKS:—"Sir, in the first place, I would like to say once more that this grant refers to the money proposed to be spent on the maintenance and repair of what are classified as 'minor irrigation tanks, that is, tanks which irrigate less than 250 acres each. It does not apply to any of the larger tanks or to any irrigation canals or anicut systems. There are two aspects of the matter on which I would like to dwell. One is the system of ascertaining the cases in which these small works require repair and the other is the system of investigating new works of the same character. Both these matters have been engaging the attention of the Government constantly of late and we are endeavouring to institute a regular system of enquiry in regard to the cases in which the small works require repair. Just as there is no season that is ever favourable and no person that ever gets sufficient pay, so no doubt it is contended that these tanks never hold enough water. But if we are to prepare plans and estimates and spend money on these tanks we must have definite defects to rectify and a proper inspection and report on the work. It is perhaps the case to some extent that there has been too little system in the matter and works are being taken up only when they come to the notice of particular officers. What has now been ordered is that a record shall be kept of all cases when minor irrigation tanks are alleged to be out of repair, that the minor irrigation overseer shall be sent to inspect and report if they need repair and to send up estimates for the purpose, if necessary. A register is to be kept and as each estimate is sent or report received stating that no repair is necessary, that will be entered in it and the Collector will be able to watch the progress of the work and see that it is done systematically.

"As regards the investigation of new works, the system that used to prevail was that a Public Works Department engineering staff was appointed that systematically investigated all works in a district whether large or small, made proposals for new works and repairs, prepared plans and estimates and carried out the works and repairs whenever feasible.

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When the works were completed, major works were handed over to the Public Works Department and minor works were entrusted to the revenue officers to maintain. These investigating staffs were called tank restoration parties. Two years ago, as a measure of retrenchment, these parties were considerably reduced in strength. Now that our finances are better the Government are at present considering the question whether it will not be possible to increase them. The House must remember, however, that on account of retrenchment the personnel of the Public Works Department has also been largely reduced and it is very difficult to find the staff for more parties. This year, however, we have made a provision of three lakhs of rupees for the tank restoration parties. It is not provided under this head. It comes under the head of the Public Works Department.

“As regards the expenditure on the tanks with which we are now concerned, I think the hon. Members who complained that the expenditure is insufficient are under some misapprehension. We propose to spend in the next year an amount almost double that we were spending two or three years ago. It was in 1925 that I made the remark to which Mr. Srinivasa Ayyangar referred, namely, that I would endeavour to spend more money on minor irrigation. We provided in the current year's budget (1926-27) four lakhs more than in the previous year for this purpose and in addition to another lakh for repairing the flood damages of 1924. This amount is expected to be fully spent this year. For the next year we have repeated this enhanced allotment but of course not the one lakh for flood damages. Hon. Members have made calculations and have pointed out that the present provision comes to only Rs. 2 or Rs. 3 per tank. That I may say is not correct. There are districts where tanks do not exist for irrigation purposes and there are districts which are largely irrigated by large ancient systems and therefore the calculation made by some hon. Members is not correct. It is only in districts like South Arcot, North Arcot and Chittoor that we have a very large number of tanks. Also I do not know why it should be assumed that every one of these tanks is in need of repair. Hon. Members made a general statement to that effect; but if I may say so, I have probably seen a great many more tanks than any hon. Member who has spoken, and I certainly cannot admit that any large number are out of repair and unserviceable as sources of irrigation. At the same time I do not in any way suggest that the measures we have taken will not and should not lead to larger expenditure—expenditure that is beneficial. I wish to point out that we have already made a very considerable advance and I would deprecate statements that we have decreased expenditure under this head from 21 lakhs as one Member said to 7 lakhs. The expenditure is not 7 lakhs this year, it is 13 lakhs: and it never was 21 lakhs or anything like that sum.

“There are various other details to which hon. Members referred. One reason why we cannot at once increase our expenditure merely by a stroke of the pen is that for all these things plans and estimates have to be prepared. It is no use simply budgeting for large sums. The result of doing that would be merely to lead to reckless expenditure. It is much better therefore to see that the sums provided are such as can be spent on works definitely ascertained to need repair and that they serve the purpose for which they are meant. We in no way wish to minimise the importance of expenditure on minor irrigation schemes and I can assure the House that the Government have given and will continue to give the matter every consideration.

[Mr. N. E. Marjoribanks]

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“One of the speakers seemed to think that digging the soil from tank beds and making brick kilns was a good thing. I can hardly imagine any course more calculated to make a tank silt up.

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p.m.

“If you could make people dig the clay out of the tank evenly and burn it into bricks outside the bed of the tank it might be a very useful thing. But they will not do this on account of the lead. It is not the ryots who own lands in the ayacut of the tank that do these things. It is a contractor or a village money-lender who wants to construct a house for himself that resorts to such practices. The ryots strongly object to this mode of burning bricks in the bed of the tank as the materials are washed down into the tank in the next rain.

“Another matter to which reference was made by some hon. Members was that the Government should encourage the digging of wells. For years we have been offering loans to the ryots on favourable terms for the construction of wells. This has been taken advantage of largely in the districts of North Arcot and South Arcot, but to a less extent in other parts of the country. I was very much struck by the fact that in Cumbum and Markapur taluks of the Kurnool district very little advantage was taken of the rule and few wells sunk. I cannot believe that this is due to any reluctance of the Local Government officials to grant loans. I rather suspect that it is due to the fact that as experience has shown in those parts that in years of scanty rainfall the water in the wells is so low that it is unprofitable to use wells. There was also a suggestion that tube wells and pumps should be installed. This is a much larger question and will require investigation. I am not suggesting that it should not be undertaken or will not be undertaken, but there is the fact that we have not been very successful so far in popularising the use of machinery for lifting water. No doubt that difficulty will be got over. In the meantime there is no reason why this question should not be explored. As a matter of fact I believe the matter is receiving the attention of the Department of Industries.

“Another hon. Member referred to a case where the ryots offered to repair a work or carry out a new work but were not allowed to do so. It is impossible to deal with statements like that without reference to the circumstances of the particular case. The hon. Member spoke of one case; I will give him another example from my recent experience. I was shown a place in Kurnool district where there was a proposal to construct a tank by erecting a bund between two hills and it seemed a very promising scheme. I was told that Government had dropped the project. I was rather puzzled at the time and I promised to look into the matter and found in due course that the reason which led to the scheme being—I will not say, abandoned, but—delayed in consideration was that whereas the ryots in the beginning had promised to give, free of cost, the lands to be submerged in the tank bed when the time came they demanded compensation and the total cost of land acquisition at once went up in the estimate from two or three thousand to half a lakh of rupees. People are enthusiastic at first but when the time comes they count the cost more carefully and Government has to do so also. I do not say that this is the case everywhere, but that we should consider the circumstances of each particular case to understand it properly.”

* Mr. G. HABIBRVOTTAMA RAO :—“The name of the place?”

* The hon. Mr. N. E. MARJORIBANKS :—“Tippayapalayam.”

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* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—"The hon. Member has already exceeded his time and I think he had better not be interrupted."

* The hon. Mr. N. E. MARJORIBANKS :—"I shall conclude soon, Sir.

"Another hon. Member referred to the need for minor irrigation works in the West Coast. I do not know if we are asked to investigate schemes of irrigation in those districts. No doubt a time may come for that. But our immediate attention should be devoted to the Ceded districts and similar parts of the country where minor irrigation works are very much needed.

"In conclusion, I would point out that this grant refers to petty works, their repair and execution, that we have placed no limit to the expenditure on them except the practicability of carrying them out, and that we have increased the expenditure in the last two years by almost 100 per cent. I hope the House will agree that, as far as these works are concerned, something at least has been done to meet their wishes."

* Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR :—"Sir, I come from a very dry district and I take it that all the other dry districts are in the same position as mine. Thanks to the promise of honey and milk by the hon. the Law Member from the Mettur project, we are to get not a drop of water from the project and we are left to rely entirely on minor irrigation works as like Pentalus we have been denied everything of the kind of a major work. The minor irrigation works are considered to be poor man's works. And Government should therefore really come to the help of the poor man. The hon. the Revenue Member boasted of having seen more minor irrigation works than any other hon. Member in this House. With his knowledge of Coimbatore, he must also be aware of the large number of ruined tanks in that district. The ryots holding lands under those ruined tanks have still registered lands as wet, in the hope that some day some Revenue Member would spend some money upon them and repair them. A very large number of tanks have been given away on darkhast. Thanks to the recent avarice of the Government, the tanks that have not been kept in repair are sold in auction and a number of people have taken the tank-bed in auction for the purposes of cultivation. This has decreased the number of tanks and their usefulness.

"Sir, from the point of view of the general tax-payer, these tanks should be repaired as soon as possible. For, the silting up of the tanks is the cause of most of the damages caused by the floods. A very experienced officer of the Government—I do not want to mention his name—told me that most of the floods are due to the fact that many of these irrigation works are silted up. Formerly in times of rainfall the rain water would collect in the various tanks, wells and other irrigation works and only the surplus would go into the rivers. But now on account of the silting up of these irrigation works, every drop of water that falls on the ground runs into the nearest river and that water flows into another big river and so on till flood damages are caused. Ultimately Government have to spend a large sum of money in repairing these damages. I suggest therefore that repair of minor irrigation works should be undertaken as a precautionary measure to prevent flood damages. The system of classifying a work which irrigates an area of less than 250 acres as a minor irrigation work must be put an end to and

[Mr. C. V. Venkataramana Ayyangar] [18th March 1927]

the limit should be raised. This will mean that more of the small irrigation works should be under the control of the Revenue Department only, instead of this present diarchical system. If we want to repair tanks irrigating more than 250 acres, we have to go to the Public Works Department. While for the distribution of water, we have to go to the Revenue Department. This causes very much delay and friction. I think that Government will come to the rescue of the people in this matter.

"The hon. the Revenue Member referred to the removal of silt from the tanks. When these tanks are silted up, the Public Works Department refuse to do anything to remove the silt. At a number of irrigation conferences we applied to the Public Works Department to remove the silt. They refused to do so. The next best thing is to permit the ryots to remove the silt. There is also a provision in the standing orders to that effect. But it is circumscribed by stringent provisions which when applied in practice by the Revenue and Public Works Department authorities make the thing unworkable. Liberal rules must be framed. If the silt is removed, it will not only restore the tank to its former level but it would also supply manure to the fields

"Reference was made to the construction of wells. I submit that the duty of the Government does not stop with giving loans to ryots for digging or deepening wells. Even though we dig right down to the *pathalalokam*, no water will flow into the wells unless there are tanks in the neighbourhood. The ryots want to preserve these tanks not so much for the wet cultivation of a few acres of land nearby as for the supply of water to a large number of wells that exist in the neighbourhood. Especially in the district of Coimbatore we want this matter to be very carefully looked into."

The motion 'that the allotment of Rs. 13,27,200 for Minor Irrigation be reduced by Rs. 100' was then put to the House and declared lost.

Mr. C. V. Venkataramana Ayyangar demanded a poll and the House divided thus :—

Ayes.

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| 1. Mr. Sami Venkatachalam Chetti. | 19. Mr. J. A. Saldanha. |
| 2. " S. Satymurti. | 20. " C. Obi Reddi. |
| 3. " C. V. Venkataramana Ayyangar | 21. " A. Parasuram Rao Pantulu. |
| 4. " T. Adinarayana Chettiyar. | 22. " U. Ramaswami Ayyar. |
| 5. " P. Anjaneyulu. | 23. " P. Bhaktavatsulu Nayudu. |
| 6. " K. Koti Reddi. | 24. Sriman Biswanath Das Mahasayo. |
| 7. " S. Muttayya Mudaliyar. | 25. Mr P. Kaleswara Rao. |
| 8. " P. C. Venkatapati Raju. | 26. " R. Srinivasa Ayyangar. |
| 9. " C. S. Govindaraja Mudaliyar. | 27. Nattam Dubash Kadir Sahib Syed Ibrahim Sahib Bahadur. |
| 10. " G. Harisarvottama Rao. | 28. Mr. B. Ramachandra Reddi. |
| 11. " C. N. Muthuranga Mudaliyar | 29. " L. K. Tulasiram. |
| 12. " Abdul Hamid Khan. | 30. " K. R. Karant. |
| 13. " K. V. B. Swami. | 31. " K. V. Krishnaswami Nayakar. |
| 14. Muhammad K. P. V. S. Meera Ravuttar Bahadur. | 32. " K. Madhavan Nayar. |
| 15. Mr. Narayana Rao | 33. " B. Venkataratnam. |
| 16. Kumara Raja of Venkatagiri. | 34. " M. A. Manikkavelu Nayakar. |
| 17. Mr. Uppi Sahib. | 35. Rao Bahadur C. S. Ratnasabhapati Mudaliyar. |
| 18. " C. Marudavanam Pillai. | |

Noes.

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| 1. The hon. Sir C. P. Ramaswami Ayyar. | 5. The hon. Diwan Bahadur R. N. Arogya- |
| 2. " Mr. N. E. Marjoribanks. | swami Mudaliyar. |
| 3. " Khan Bahadur Muhammad | 6. " Mr. A. Ranganatha Mudaliyar. |
| Uman Sahib Bahadur. | 7. " Dr. P. Subbarayan. |
| 4. " Mr. T. E. Moir. | |

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Noes—cont.

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| 8. Dr. (Mrs.) Muthulakshmi Reddi. | 30. Rao Bahadur O. M. Narayanan Nambudripad. |
| 9. Mr. T. R. Venkatarama Sastriyar. | 31. Mr. C. B. Parthasarathi Ayyangar. |
| 10. „ J. F. Hall. | 32. „ Ramanath Goenka. |
| 11. „ P. L. Moore. | 33. „ N. Siva Raj. |
| 12. „ H. Tireman. | 34. „ M. V. Gangadhar Siva. |
| 13. „ G. T. Boag. | 35. „ W. P. A. Soundarapanlia Nadar. |
| 14. „ V. Pandrang Row. | 36. „ S. Subrahmanya Moopannar. |
| 15. „ S. H. Slater. | 37. „ D. Thomas. |
| 16. „ C. B. Co'terell. | 38. „ S. V. Vanavudia Goundar. |
| 17. Khan Bahadur Muhammad Bazl-ul-lah Sahib Bahadur. | 39. „ S. Venkayya |
| 18. The Zamindar of Seithur. | 40. „ K. R. Venkatarama Ayyar. |
| 19. Abbas Ali Khan Bahadur. | 41. „ K. Krishnan. |
| 20. Mr. C. D. Appavu Chettiyar. | 42. The Zamindar of Gollapalli. |
| 21. „ H. B. Ari Gowder. | 43. Mr. G. R. Premayya. |
| 22. „ J. Bheemayya. | 44. „ Tajudin Sahib. |
| 23. Rao Sahib M. Hampayya. | 45. Swami Sahajananda. |
| 24. Mr. V. Ch. John. | 46. Rao Sahib R. Srinivasan. |
| 25. Mahmud Sohamnad Sahib Bahadur. | 47. Mr. H. F. P. Hearson. |
| 26. Mr. Muppil Nayar of Kavalappara. | 48. Sir Alexander MacDongall. |
| 27. „ R. Naganna Gowda. | 49. Mr. C. E. Wood. |
| 28. Subadar-Major S. A. Nanjappa 'Bahadur.' | 50. Rao Sahib L. C. Guruswami. |
| 29. Mr. Al. Ar. Narayanan Chettiyar. | 51. Mr. V. I. Muniswami Pillai. |

Neutral.

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| 1. Mr. T. C. Srinivasa Ayyangar. | 9. Diwan Bahadur P. G. Ethirajulu Nayudu |
| 2. „ S. Arpudaswami Udayar. | 10. Muhammad Khadir Mohidin Sahib Bahadur. |
| 3. Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. Patro. | 11. Diwan Bahadur S. Kumaraswami Reddiyar |
| 4. Diwan Bahadur M. Krishnan Nayar. | 12. Rao Bahadur B. Muniswami Nayudu. |
| 5. Khan Bahadur S. K. Abdul Razaack Sahib Bahadur. | 13. Mr. K. Ramaabandhra Padayachi. |
| 6. Mr. P. T. Rajan. | 14. „ K. Sarabha Reddi. |
| 7. „ T. K. Chidambaranatha Mudaliyar. | 15. Rao Bahadur K. Sitarama Reddiyar. |
| 8. Rao Sahib S. Ellappa Chettiyar. | |

Ayes 35. Noes 51. Neutral 15.

The motion was lost.

Demand No. VI was put to the House and carried and the grant was made.

DEMAND VII—IRRIGATION—PUBLIC WORKS OFFICERS AND
HYDRO ELECTRIC DEVELOPMENT

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—“ Mr. President, Sir, on the 1 p.m. recommendation of His Excellency the Governor I beg to move

‘that the Government be granted a sum not exceeding Rs. 234.63 lakhs under Demand VII—Irrigation—Public Works Officers—and Hydro-Electric Development.’”

* Mr. K. KOTI REDDI :—“ Mr. President, Sir, I beg to move
‘to reduce the allotment of Rs. 2,500 for Ganjam minor rivers system by Rs. 100.’”

“In moving this out, within the short time at my disposal I propose to briefly survey the policy of the Irrigation department as laid down by the Government of India and carried on by the Provincial Governments. In the criticism I propose to make of the policy that has been followed by the Government with regard to irrigation, I have to make my own suggestions

[Mr. K. Koti Reddi]

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which I think will be agreed to by this House. If my suggestions are agreed to and if they are carried out by the Government, there will be no detriment to the interests of the country, and the country will vastly be benefited. The first charge that I have to make against the policy in the Irrigation Department is that the method and the tests that have been applied in classifying the works as productive and unproductive are mistaken and unsound. With certain limitations I do agree when they say that the department ought not to incur any loss. I agree when they say that they should meet, from the loan funds, the cost of works which are classed as productive. Only there is difference between the test that has hitherto been followed by the Government and my proposal involves with regard to what productive works are. I wish to give an idea, to the Council, of what the Government mean by productive works and schemes. I would like to quote the very words that have been used by the Indian Irrigation Commission, 1901-03 as they would be of an authoritative nature :

' Apart from the question of famine protection, which will be considered separately, the maximum permanent charge which the State may reasonably undertake in providing irrigation should theoretically be limited by the share of the increase in the value of produce due to irrigation which it will be able to recover indirectly.'

" Again they say :

' Apart from the question of famine protection, there is no reason why the State should accept a permanent charge on the revenue for the sake of increasing the productiveness of land belonging to private owners, and that at any rate such charges should be limited to the amount which may be recouped by the share of the increased produce which will come back to it in an indirect form.'

" These notions are really due to the conception that in constructing and maintaining irrigation works, the Government ought to get a revenue which would at least suffice to meet the charges for maintenance and the interest charges. If the conception of the State or of the community at large is only from the point of view of the actual revenues that the Government get, such a position might probably be justified. I think the time is come when the State is recognized to be a community which is intended for the purpose of bettering and contributing towards the prosperity of the people at large. Instead of taking that point of view I do not really see why such a narrow view, viz., the revenue only which the State gets from irrigation sources, should be taken into account. So long as the community as a whole i.e., the population of the province or the State are concerned, if they do not incur any loss from irrigation schemes I fail to see why any scheme should be considered as unproductive. My proposal to be followed in future so far as the irrigation policy is concerned is this. Any scheme should be considered productive if such of the increased value of the crops as is due to irrigation under that scheme, is not less than the maintenance and interest charges. In such a case, the State does not lose anything. It may be that the Government do not get much revenue out of that scheme, but the community as a whole does not lose a pie by that scheme. So far as I can see, there is only one limitation which will have to be taken into account in undertaking such schemes. If the crops that are raised under the scheme do not find use in our country or sale in any country, then there is loss, because there is no value for the crops. But so long as the crops that are raised give a value due to irrigation equivalent to the maintenance charges including pension and establishment charges and interest on the capital, I maintain that the Government should consider that scheme as productive. The rules fixed by the Irrigation

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Commission and by the Government with regard to productive schemes are, in case of productive works, relaxed. Similar considerations apply here also. Even if the value of the crops raised is not enough to pay the interest charges and the working expenses, when a scheme is likely to help famine-stricken people in any particular area, I maintain that the above rule I have proposed should be relaxed. Not only that. In cases as so where the Government had better provide labour, i.e., where when they do not do so and where people suffer for want of employment, the rule ought to be relaxed. Whether the Government are prepared to relax the rule or not, in those cases, so long as the country does not lose anything by a scheme, the State ought not to consider other matters and give up the scheme. The short sighted view the Government have taken on this question, viz., that only the revenue that the Government get ought to be calculated in considering the productiveness or otherwise of a scheme, has led to many disastrous consequences as I shall show. If the Government adopt the policy suggested by me, our material position would certainly be different. The only point that has been taken into consideration by the Government is the revenue they get."

* Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. PATRO :—“In supporting this motion, Mr. President, I may say that I have also given notice of similar motions. Suggesting the appointment of a committee for the investigation of several projects in the Ganjam district, and I ask your indulgence, if I exceed my time-limit. This motion refers to the Ganjam minor rivers system. The productive works protecting this system cover about 180,000 acres of land. The two rivers concerned in this vast area are the Mahanadi river and the Nagavalli river; there are channels from these rivers protecting this large extent. All the areas under this minor river system comprise, as I said, about 180,000 acres. With regard to the Nagavalli river, there are 30,000 acres of land which are irrigated by the channels known as the Dusi channel, the Urlam channel and the Vadada channel. These three channels take from the Nagavalli river, and irrigate lands to an extent of about 30,000 acres. There is also a second crop area, of about 15,000 acres within this. The minor river system is a productive system and it pays an interest or revenue of about 10 per cent on the capital outlay. The question now is the improvement of supply from the Dusi, Vadada and Urlam channels. The ryots have been asking for the last one decade to secure proper water-supply. What happens now is this. In times of flood the channel heads are silted up and sufficient water does not flow through these channels and at times when the level of the water is low in the river further difficulty arises, korambu works have to be constructed to divert water. When the river is low it is very difficult to take water from the heads of these channels and the result is that either during flood or during scarcity of water, these 30,000 acres of first crop and nearly 15,000 acres of second crop are badly affected. This has been so for the last 12 years and the ryots' association which was formed has been agitating from time to time and yet nothing has been done so far. A few years back an attempt was made to prepare an estimate and to begin ancicut work. The Revenue authorities themselves were satisfied that it was a real grievance. The estimate prepared was for about Rs. 3½ lakhs but for some reason or other the work has not been taken up. There is a serious error committed with regard to the nature of this work. This project seems to be classified as a *new work* instead of being classified as one for the improvement of existing work. I would refer to what the hon. the

1-15
p.m.

[Sir A. P. Patro]

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Irrigation Member emphasised some time back on the floor of this House, that if a work is to be for the purpose of conserving and preserving the existing sources of irrigation and to secure an improvement to the existing irrigated area then it may not be necessarily 'new work.' Now, Sir, this is a work which is intended to conserve and preserve an existing source of irrigation and an improvement is sought in the various channels irrigating the estate of 30,000 acres. Therefore, the error of the department is clear, namely, that it has been classified as a new work, and so this work is isolated from the entire system and a separate return for the capital outlay is expected. It is not so; it is only a work of improvement; because on those channels, the Government every year spend about Rs. 10,000 to Rs. 12,000 for clearing silt and also for korambu works. The construction of an anicut will prevent this. If this Rs. 12,000 a year be capitalised for 20 years, the estimated amount can, I think, very well be sufficient now. In addition, there is also an offer from the ryots that they would pay at the rate of a rupee or two per acre for this additional improvement if the Government carries it into execution. Therefore, Sir, it is not a new work it is only an improvement of the existing source of irrigation, intended solely for the preservation and conservation of water-supply to this vast area which has been badly affected during the last 10 or 12 years for want of proper irrigation. And this year especially there has been a scarcity and ryots have asked for a remission of rent. If Government had taken proper precaution in time, this would have been avoided. Therefore, I urge on the Government that this very urgent work the necessity for which has been made clear by the reports of the Revenue officers should be immediately taken up. It should be taken up not as a new work but as a work of improvement, as a work for preserving and conserving the existing sources of irrigation, because the Government spend on these channels every year about Rs. 10,000 in clearing silt and korambu works. If the anicut is constructed, Government will avoid the expenditure every year. This should be treated as a work of improving the existing irrigation sources and should be classified as such. The estimate that has already been prepared by the department should immediately be approved and the work carried into execution without further delay.

"Then, Sir, there is another point which I wish to press on the attention of the Government, i.e., in regard to the general investigation of the projects in the Ganjam district. Fortunately or unfortunately, my district has been classified as a very backward district. . . . (At this stage, the gong was sounded.) I asked for your indulgence, Sir, to speak for some more minutes."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—"The hon. Member ought to have made the request at the beginning of his speech. That is the practice."

* Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. PATRO :—"I made the request that I may be given a few more minutes, even at the beginning."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—"The hon. Member must then finish his speech soon."

* Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. PATRO :—"Unfortunately, Sir, my district has been classified as a backward district for this simple reason that the district is visited by frequent famines. From the year 1865 up to the present one, there have been nearly 24 years of famine or scarcity in the district, and the

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last famine year was 1919 and about Rs. 34 lakhs were spent on the northern parts of the district in the famine area. Various projects have been investigated from time to time, and we must say to the credit of Captain Buckley and Captain Rundall who really sympathised with the sufferings of the ryots, various projects have been investigated. Pro-eminent among the projects is the Vamsadhara project which was investigated in the year 1856 by Rundall and four others have supported the project, and in 1902 Mr. Clerk was placed on special duty. He pressed on the attention of the Government that this was one of the major works which the Government ought to investigate more fully and take up as early as possible. Then, again, when Mr. Morgan was appointed as special officer, he reported in 1923 that there were 10 or 12 very practical projects in the Ganjam district, investigated by various officers, for which plans and estimates were prepared. He had no time to go into these cases in detail. If these schemes had been executed, they would have benefited the country and saved the Government about a crore of rupees which they spent on famine works all these years. I think the House will agree with me that this is not a policy which any enlightened Government would approve of. Facilities for creation of food supply is a primary duty of the administration.

"Now, Sir, the Vamsadhara is one of the many important projects which were investigated by Mr. Clerk and recommended by him, but no steps have yet been taken so far in connexion with that. Similarly, Sir, with regard to the Rushikulya Reservoir project, it was proposed that a supplementary reservoir should be formed to preserve the existing irrigation facilities by strengthening the Rushikulya system and the Godahaddo reservoirs, so that the district may be safeguarded from famine and scarcity. They have been neglected. Even recently, in 1923, Mr. Morgan who was appointed as special officer, had strongly pressed on the attention of the Government that this was one of the projects which should be investigated immediately. Again, Sir, there is the Girisola channel, costing about Rs. 2 lakhs. An estimate was prepared last year, but no work has as yet been begun in right earnest. Other projects have been investigated from time to time, but these have been neglected for no fault of the people. I think, Sir, if the Vamsadhara project is taken in right earnest, and if the Rushikulya Reservoir project also is developed, the Government will be the better for it because the revenues therefrom will be very large and the people will be benefited to a great extent in obtaining an adequate supply of water. Therefore it is that I have suggested, during the time I was in office, that the Government should appoint a special officer as a project officer for the purpose of investigating the various projects now in existence, but he was soon withdrawn on account of retrenchment policy. I press now for a special officer and a committee of officials and non-officials to advise the special officer to work out these works and to recommend to the Government the execution of the projects in the order of their urgency.

"I am sure the hon. Member would agree with me when I say that the Ganjam district is one of the very neglected districts in every matter; because in the matter of our geographical position, we are far away from the throne of grace and our voices are very distant and not heard, our people are loyal and moderate people, and we have no loud-mouthed agitators at headquarters either in this House or outside to create noise in season and out of season and therefore the interests of the Ganjam people always

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suffer at the hands of the Government in every matter. I therefore press on the attention of the Government that the irrigation problem in the Ganjam district is a very serious one considering the frequent occurrence of famine and scarcity from time to time, considering the sufferings and the misery of the people of the district, it is absolutely necessary that the Government should at least now appoint a special officer and a committee. This is not a new request, Sir, because already Government appointed Mr. Morgan in 1921 to carry on the work for three years; but his appointment ceased within three months after he began the work and therefore no substantial progress could be made by him in regard to the investigation of the various projects in the Ganjam district. There are schemes such as the Mollada or the Gowju Tampara reclamation scheme which were recommended either by Mr. Morgan or by Mr. Clerk in his report as requiring serious attention on the part of the Government. I submit that if a special officer is appointed, assisted by an advisory committee, investigation can be expedited."

(At this stage the hon. the Deputy President occupied the Chair.)

* Sriman BISWANATH DAS Mahasaya :—"Madam, I very heartily associate myself with what my hon. Friend Sir A. P. Patro has spoken. Ganjam being at the tail-end of the province hardly receives that amount of attention which it ought to receive. Time after time we are infested by famines, and Government are spending lakhs of rupees thereon. It was only in the year 1917 that famine was declared in two divisions of the Ganjam district, and the result was that Rs. 40 lakhs, if I remember aright, were spent out of the Provincial revenues. Our difficulties are that our irrigation works are not attended to. As early as 1921, we requested Government to lay on the table a list of the projects that were investigated for which estimates were ready, and on the 14th February 1921 a list was placed on the table of the House showing that 21 works had been investigated. Thanks to the generosity of the hon. the Law Member, he was pleased at last to undertake a small work, i.e., the construction of the Girisola channel project. The estimate was sanctioned, Government made a promise year after year to undertake the work, and I believe last year a small amount was allotted for this purpose; but not a pie of that allotment was spent. To an interpellation which was answered on the 1st March 1921, I was told that next year Government would allot money, and up to the present moment Government have not allotted anything. Under these circumstances, Sir, I request the hon. the Law Member to pay the attention necessary to the irrigation needs of the Ganjam district and thus save us from frequent visits of famines."

The House then adjourned for lunch.

After Lunch (2-30 p.m.).

Mr. B. Venkataratnam rose to make a speech.

* The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—"I want to take your guidance, Mr. President. The hon. Member is apparently talking on item 315. I should like to know whether the previous Motion has been disposed of."

a 315. Mr. B. VENKATARATNAM :—

To reduce the allotment of Rs. 21,500 for Godavari delta system by Rs. 100 (to discuss the question of providing big shutters to the Godavari anicut).

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* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—“ We have not yet disposed of Mr. Koti Reddi's motion (314). Hitherto we have adopted in the discussion of other demands, the practice that all details relating to policy could be raised on the first motion under this Demand. If it is the wish of the Treasury Bench, to deviate from that practice and adhere strictly to the scope of the first item, proposed to be reduced, I have no objection. I may mention that in the case of Registration and in the case of Forest and other demands, detailed references were even on the first item allowed to be discussed but, if it is the wish of the Treasury Bench hereafter to confine to the particular matter of which notice is given, then I have no objection to adopt that practice and give up the practice followed hitherto.”

* The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—“ Mr. President, I am entirely in the hands of the House on that matter. The point, however, is this. In dealing with Mr. Koti Reddi's motion, certain topics have been adverted to regarding certain classes of works as productive and protective.”

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—“ Having regard to the previous practice, I allowed a discussion on similar questions affecting more than one district, but if it is the wish of the hon. the Law Member that we should adhere to the strict wording of the first item, I think I am bound to adhere to it and therefore, I want to know what is the wish of the hon. Member.”

* The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—“ As I have said, I am prepared to consult the convenience both of yourself and of the hon. Members to go on with the discussion in any manner.”

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—“ The very fact that the House has consented to discuss districtwar grievances on the previous demands, we can take it, goes to show that the House has expressed its willingness to go into the details of each district and with the general questions of policy as well.”

* The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—“ The only difficulty is this. Supposing on this Motion, the question of the grievances of the ryots on the Red Hills Tank is taken up, I cannot do justice to this question of the productive and protective policy and that, within the time allotted to me.”

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—“ Apparently, the hon. the Law Member wants each item to be discussed and I have not got the right to say that the districtwar grievances are to be ventilated together. I therefore request hon. Members to confine their remarks regarding the first item alone. The practice of going to districtwar grievances will be given up hereafter. It is for the House to arrange if they want to discuss any particular question themselves—I need not suggest that it is very easy for the House to do—and take up any particular item and in such a case, I do not think the Treasury Bench will offer any impediment to the Members but will afford them a chance of discussing the particular item.”

Mr. MAHMUD SCHAMNAD SAHIB :—“ In the case of particular districts ? ”

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—“ They have to wait. Mr. Venkataratnam will have to wait till the Council reaches item 315.”

Mr. B. Venkataratnam spoke in Telugu.

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—“ The hon. Member has got a right to speak on that Motion. Members are requested to confine their speeches only to Mr. Koti Reddi's motion.”

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* Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR :—“ My opinion is, Sir, that the Government are not right in dividing the various schemes into productive and protective. What is protective to-day may become productive a few years hence or a few decades hence, when all this distinction must go. The hon. the Law Member once said that economically speaking, for the benefit of the whole presidency, it did not matter which district got water and which district grew paddy, because the whole presidency would get the advantage of the production of paddy. I think taking that into consideration, the Government will be well advised if they drop this classification into productive and protective, and take the whole question into consideration, especially with reference to dry and famine districts. So far as the old and ancient irrigation works were concerned, I do not think that any Raja or Zamindar of any particular time when they executed these works went into the question whether they would be productive or protective. We have now a number of old schemes of big irrigation works in the south and north of the Presidency which are yielding a good deal now. Certainly, no man ever cared to dream at the time of their execution what the financial aspect of the schemes would be. I see a memorial near the new Mysore Kannambadi reservoir that was put up by Tippu Sultan. He anticipated many things, and in this particular thing, he anticipated that this project would be fructified in his time. Unfortunately, he did not succeed during his days. The present Mysore Government has taken it up and completed it. But in the particular memorial, it is stated by Tippu Sultan that even after the work is over, he does not expect any income out of it; for, nobody who cultivates lands under the reservoir would at any time be asked to pay any additional revenue. I would ask the Government to follow the good example of Tippu Sultan and not to tax water for general, economic reasons. Moreover, with respect to the particular scheme in Mettur, the Government cannot say that the whole scheme would be productive. A portion of it may be productive and another portion protective. Government will therefore be well advised if they divide the scheme under two heads. In the case of the Tungabhadra project and the Mettur project, they may very well be considered protective for the famine tracts like the Ceded districts as also Coimbatore and Salem and productive for other districts such as Tanjore. The Government will be well advised to take this into consideration. I believe the hon. the Law Member will bestow some thought upon this. I do not know whether this is the last year of his term of office and I would request him to publish all that he has regarding this scheme in the form of a book.”

* The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—“ I am here for the budget for next year too.”

* Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR :—“ I am glad of it, Sir. I think that whenever he may lay down his office, he will be pleased to publish all his speeches delivered and not delivered, which will be very valuable so that we may have the benefit of his experience and make use of it when time comes for the future prosperity of the country. I think there is no doubt that several districts may be seriously affected by the scheme as a whole. A particular work should be classified according as it is fully productive or partially productive, or fully protective or partially protective. There are various other things involved in this Motion. Unfortunately we have to pay very heavy costs on account of big establishments and the method of fixing interest on the capital outlay also comes into consideration. I think

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it would be well if the question of Indianising the establishment as far as possible is also taken into consideration.

“One other thing I want to say is that the rate of 20 per cent contingent charges seems to be doing the greatest havoc everywhere. It seems that, in the Mettur area, they are going to construct a hospital next year and in anticipation, they have purchased ice-making machinery and this, I believe, was done out of the contingent charges. The machine has also been damaged, I understand. Again, a large number of wet lands were purchased for the diversion of roads, in spite of the fact that a railway also is going to be opened. In all these schemes, plans and estimates are not to be relied upon. They should be entrusted to a committee of interested people in the locality who can judge for themselves, so that they may have a check over them.

“I do not know whether the purchase of the ice-making machine had the approval of even the Government. I think the Chief Engineer and the Superintending Engineer have got the power to indent and sanction these things out of the contingent charges so that if one crore is spent on works actually executed they may have the power to spend even one and a half crores for contingent and unforeseen expenditure. In this particular case, so far as Mettur is concerned, the officers have been working havoc on the poor people. They divert roads in several places and the poor people are losing their lands simply to satisfy the whims and fancies of these officials. In all such big schemes, it is necessary that this House should be given an opportunity of going into the details. I think I have given sufficient grounds to show that the Mettur project should not be brought under any particular classification whether productive or protective. I have already on a previous occasion, given figures that it has affected a very large number of people, although the hon. the Law Member questioned the correctness of the figures at the time of the adjournment motion on the floor of this House. I have already told him that both in respect of area and population, the figures which he gave were wrong. He said that only thirty square miles would be affected. Even according to the papers published on the Mettur project, volume I, it is stated that 54.6 square miles would be submerged. The population that will be directly and indirectly affected will be about two hundred thousand people, Sir, whenever we deal with big schemes of this kind we must take into consideration not only the large area that will be affected but also the large number of people that will be practically made homeless and landless. I trust that the Government will take these things into consideration and come to a final conclusion, if necessary, with the assistance of the committee, before it finally decides against Salem and Coimbatore districts on this particular Reservoir scheme.”

* Mr. S. ARPUDASWAMI UDAYAR :—“Speaking of the classification of works into productive and protective I think that I should avail myself of this opportunity to make a clear statement with regard to Trichinopoly and Salem, especially in regard to the productive nature of the work. With regard to Coimbatore, my friend, Mr. Venkataramana Ayyangar, will pardon me, if I say that, it will be quite possible for Government to think of some other scheme, but in the case of Trichinopoly and Salem, if this opportunity is lost, as there is only one river out of which water may be diverted for the

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irrigation of certain portions of these two districts, there is actually no chance of any satisfactory scheme being devised for benefiting large areas both in Trichinopoly and Salem, especially in the latter.

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p.m.

"Sir, while gigantic efforts are being made to provide water for some particular taluk of Tanjore, I may bring to the notice of this House that there are portions of that district, namely, Tanjore taluk, which once enjoyed the benefit of irrigation but which are deprived of any under this scheme. Especially is this true of the fifty villages through which the Uyyakondan channel flowed as far as Alakkudi in the Tanjore taluk, which now are, as it were in the famine zone. They will not derive any benefit whatever from the waters of the new Mettur channel although it goes very near them and although extension of irrigation to these parts will make the work more productive."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—"The hon. Member will please elucidate in his remarks whether the proposed work is to be given up or undertaken on the basis whether it is to be productive or protective. In that case, his remarks will be pertinent, otherwise they may not be in order."

* MR. S. ARPUDASWAMI UDAYAR :—"In fact, Sir, as I told the House, if these needs are not satisfied, the work will have to be given up as not adequately productive or at least, the plans must be greatly altered. That is my point."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—"As far as I understand, the Government are giving up the work for various other considerations. I do not think it is one of the considerations of the Government to give up the work because it is not productive or protective. If I remember aright, the answer given was that engineering and other difficulties crept in."

* The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—"Quite apart from that, Sir, I should like to know whether my hon. Friend is dealing with the subsequent motions of which notice has been given by him, with reference to bunds being erected for the protection of wet lands, etc. I thought he was dealing with that matter, and I should like to know whether it is so."

* MR. S. ARPUDASWAMI UDAYAR :—"I am not now specifically dealing with them, Sir, but incidentally in connexion with this matter, I referred to that point. However, Sir, I think I have made it clear that with regard to these protective works, there are very serious defects which must be rectified."

* The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—"Mr. President, Sir, I shall deal with the questions raised by the hon. Members in the order in which they raised them. The first hon. Member who spoke was my friend, Mr. Koti Reddi, who questioned the principle underlying the differentiation between productive and protective works. As the hon. Member very well knows, the distinction is pretty clear. Productive works are works of a remunerative character undertaken for the improvement of the country. Their first cost is usually met from borrowed money. With regard to the borrowing rules themselves, there must be good reason to believe that the revenue to be derived within ten years after the probable date of completion of the work, will repay the annual interest on the capital invested, calculated at 6 per cent or such rate as may be fixed by the Secretary of State in Council. That is

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the criterion with regard to productive works. With regard to unproductive works, they may be financed from loan funds but in this case, it is provided that the Local Government may make provision for a sinking fund to extinguish the loan. My hon. Friend did not refer to what is also provided for in our rules, namely, that in certain contingencies, it is open to start protective works out of the Famine Insurance Fund. Now, my hon. Friend stated that, in his opinion, the present policy was a mistake and that account must be taken not only of the actual return on the outlay but also of the value of the food crops raised, and that value must be added, if I understood him correctly, to what may be called the return on the outlay. It appears to me that, in other terms, we are asked to accept a position which is against the rules which govern the procedure of the Government under the Government of India Act and the rules which are of a binding character upon us. Another argument may be used, and the authority of that argument has been accepted implicitly by the Government that it is incumbent on the Government to start a work not solely from the point of view of revenue production but also as insurance against trouble or difficulty in the future. To that extent, the Government have declared more than once that they undertake works of this description or nature, not solely from what may be called the monetary or revenue producing character, whether it pays 6 per cent or 7 per cent, but also because some works are calculated to be an insurance against famine. Let me illustrate. My hon. Friend and one or two other hon. Members who followed him adverted to what they characterised as the neglect of the Government with regard to the Ceded districts. Our difficulty in regard to the Ceded districts has been this, that outlay has been incurred, say, for instance, in the case of Seetapuram tank, about 6 to 8 lakhs have been spent on that tank, but it has been found, after the money is spent, that the porosity of the soil and the inadequacy of rainfall make the question of the water-supply for that tank one of absolute difficulty. As a matter of fact, that note of warning was struck by Mr. Morgan in his monograph reviewing the various irrigation projects. At present, as my hon. Friends from the Ceded districts know, excepting three or four works of a comparatively minor character, no other works in that area can be said to be an effective insurance against famine, and it was for that reason that the Government gave it as their opinion that they must exclusively concentrate on big projects. It has been pointed out that, so far as the big projects are concerned, they are nowhere near fruition or completion. On that, as I have said in the course of my general remarks on the Budget, up to now, we have been negotiating with the Government of His Exalted Highness the Nizam and as the result of the labours of the Ceded Districts Irrigation Enquiry Committee presided over by my hon. Colleague the third Minister, a site on the borders of Bombay and Madras has been found, and at the present moment only Rs. 25,000 have been put in the Budget for a preliminary investigation. As soon as the Bombay Government express themselves on the matter with reference to the giving of facilities in regard to the arrangements for water, as soon as we get a satisfactory reply, I have every reason to assure hon. Members, that we shall proceed with it, and shall not let that project go to sleep. We shall push on with that project, and, if necessary, we shall come to the Council for further allotment.

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"Then, my hon. Friend, Mr. Venkataramana Ayyangar, referred to the classification as being wrong. But so far as the differentiation in the classification between productive and protective works is concerned, I have pointed out that both under the rules under the Government of India Act and under the rules binding upon us, that classification is at present binding, namely, that those works which will bring us 6 per cent or some other rate as the Secretary of State in Council may fix, should be classed as productive and those undertaken as insurance against famine should be classed as protective. The hon. Member then adverted to contingent charges. I do not know exactly what he was referring to. He has referred to the case of the ice machine."

* Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR:—"On a point of personal explanation, Sir, by contingencies I mean the item in the estimates found at the bottom, i.e., 'contingencies and unforeseen charges,' etc. That comes to one-fifth of the total allotment."

* The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR:—"I take it that what he means is that the outlay incurred by the Government or rather the total shown is a fictitious one by reason of its being swelled by contingencies."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT:—"I wish to know whether the question of contingencies is taken into consideration in classifying a work as productive or protective."

* Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR:—"I said that it should be omitted from consideration. In this estimate it will be seen that the total is about 7 crores, but the actual expenditure on the works is only $5\frac{1}{2}$ crores, the contingencies coming to $1\frac{1}{2}$ crores."

* The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR:—"That is a matter which is common to all estimates. In all estimates, a certain amount is put in for contingencies. If in certain items the amount of contingencies is found to be excessive, that is a matter to be carefully considered, and I may say that if any such instances as have been indicated by Mr. Venkataramana Ayyangar are substantiated, the matter will be considered seriously by the Government. But another argument which I could not understand is this. He referred to the too rigid differentiation between productive and protective works with regard to projects like the Mottur project, where the benefit may not go to certain other districts on account of this too rigid classification. To that my answer is this. Dealing with the question of acquisition of lands which he specifically referred to I may say that my hon. Friend knows very well that Government issued a circular that lands should not be acquired excepting at or about the time they will be necessary to proceed with the work in connexion with which those lands are acquired. Some of the lands have to be cleared beforehand, and they were acquired because there was no inconvenience about their acquisition. In certain individual cases, there may have been inconveniences, but instructions have been issued to all authorities to acquire lands only about the time they would be wanted and not before."

* Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR:—"I referred to the lands acquired for the unnecessary diversion of the road."

* The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR:—"So far as that is concerned, the road was necessary. The question of the railway coming in from Salem to Mottur was developed more recently and therefore, the acquisition could

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not have been avoided. The last point that I wish to deal with arises out of what has fallen from Mr. Arpudaswami Udayar, that is, the question regarding Salem and Trichinopoly. With regard to that, I have already stated that we have been advised, so far as Salem and Trichinopoly are concerned, that there are engineering objections. It is not a question of the work being productive or unproductive. It does not arise and, if I may say so with great respect, that that argument cannot really be germane to this discussion. That is all I have to say, Sir."

The motion was put and negatived.

Mr. B. VENKATARATNAM, in moving the following motion—

'To reduce the allotment of Rs. 21,500 for Godavari Delta System by Rs. 100'

to discuss the question of providing big shutters to the Godavari anicut, spoke thus:—

“గోదావరి డెల్టా విధానము చిరకాలము క్రిందట స్థాపించబడినది. దీనికి ఆనకట్ట వైపు కొన్ని పట్టరులు ఆనగా చెక్కలుగట్టి విచ్చాటుచేసియున్నారు. ప్రస్తుత అవసరమునకు ఆ చెక్కల ఎత్తు చాలనందున అవి కృష్ణ ఆనకట్ట పట్టరులవలెనే ఎత్తు చేయవలసిన ఆవశ్యక ముగలదని ఇదివరలో ఈ సభలో చెప్పియున్నాను. ఆప్పుడు ఈ విషయమునకు సంబంధించిన గౌ. సభ్యుడు సమాధానమిస్తూ, కొత్తగా కృష్ణ ఆనకట్టమీద దీనిని ముందుప్రయత్నించి చూస్తూ ఉన్నాము. అది బాగుగ ఉండిన గోదావరి ఆనకట్టపైగూడ విచ్చాటుచేస్తామని ఆని చెప్పియుండెను. కాని యింతవరకు దానికి సంబంధించిన పని విమిన్ది ప్రారంభముజేసి నట్టు కనిపించుట లేదు. ఈ పట్టర్లు విషయములలో ఇప్పుడన్న పద్ధతిలోగూడ ఒక గొప్ప పారచాటు ఉన్నట్టు కనపిస్తూ ఉన్నది. ఇప్పుటి పట్టర్లుమీద గోదావరిలో 9 అడుగుల నీరుఉంటే ఈ పట్టరులు నీటిలో పడిపోవునట్లు విచ్చాటు జేసియున్నారు. 9 అడుగులనీరు ఉంటే డెల్టా అంతా నీరు సరిపోవునని ఇంజనీయరులు రెక్క వేసుకున్నారు. 8.34 నీరు వచ్చేవరకే ఈ పట్టర్లు పడిపోతూ ఉన్నవి. అందుచేత గోదావరి ఆనకట్టులో సాధారణముగ 8.34 వైగు నీరువచ్చుటకు వీలులేదు. ఇప్పుడు ఉన్న పట్టర్లు వాటంతట వాటినే నిలువబెట్టుటకు వీలులేదు. ప్రత్యేకముగ మనుష్యులు వెళ్లి యీ పట్టర్లను నిలువబెట్టవలెను. అది సాధ్యముకాక కొన్నిరోజులు అలస్యము అయిపోయి గోదావరిలో నీరుతగ్గిన తరువాతనే మనుష్యులు వెళ్లి ఈ పట్టర్లను నిలువబెట్టి రావలసి వచ్చుచున్నది. కాబట్టి ఈ పట్టర్లను పెద్దవిగా జేయనిచో చాల ఇబ్బంది కలుగును ఈ విషయమై ప్రభుత్వమువారు మామూలుగ ‘అలాచిస్తాము-దూస్తాము’ అని చెప్పక వెంటనే అమలులో తీసుకవచ్చి వెంటనే పని ప్రారంభిస్తారని నమ్ముచున్నాను”.

* The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—“Sir, on the last budget occasion I stated that we were not yet able to collate the data and arrive at a decision with regard to this question of big shutters on the Godavari anicut. On that matter, I am now in a position to say that a report in favour of providing big shutters to the Godavari Anicut has now been submitted by the Superintending Engineer. It is under examination by the Chief Engineer. And in answer to a question which has been forwarded by my hon Friend I have stated that the Government will consider the question as soon as the Chief Engineer has reported on the matter.”

The motion was by leave withdrawn.

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Mr. SAMI VENKATACHALAM CHEETI:—" We have agreed, all the parties in the House are agreed to take up motions 318 and 362, that is, Mr. Muthuranga Mudaliyar's motion in regard to Red Hills tank and Mr. Harisavottama Rao's motion in regard to the Mettur Project. I have consulted the Justice Party and the Ministerialist Party."

* Mr. C. N. MUTHURANGA MUDALIYAR :—" Mr. President, Sir, I propose."
' That the allotment of Rs. 22,700 for extensions and improvements be reduced by Rs. 100 '

My object is to discuss the grievances of the ryots under the Red Hills tank in the Chingleput district. With great diffidence, Sir, I rise to move this motion. On the one hand there is as was evidenced at question time yesterday, a conflict of interest between the City of Madras and the ryots of the Chingleput district. On the other hand, I am most diffident if the Government will abide by our suggestions. Generally, in these matters, if we make suggestions, Government will refer us to the opinion of their experts and engineers, who brush aside our suggestions. The Red Hills tank before it was taken up for water supply to the Madras City was irrigating the villages under it numbering about 16. I am not sure of their population. But, as for the area probably 4,000 or 5,000 acres were involved in the irrigation of this tank. As the hon. the Law Member mentioned yesterday at question time, that tank was developed and its capacity increased primarily for the City of Madras. I am not oblivious to the requirements of the Madras City. There really need be no conflict of interests in this matter. My suggestion is that the Red Hills tank should be increased in its capacity in order that Madras City might have its full supply without at the same time inconveniencing the ryots of the Chingleput district in the matter of their irrigation facilities. Sir, recently I saw a communication in the press that the Commissioner of the Corporation has issued that the lands under the Red Hills tank will be purchased by giving compensation and that the water would be reserved solely for the Madras City. From that communication, I understand that it involves a very large expenditure to the Government, about 80 lakhs or so, for compensating the villagers. I think the Government can devise other sources of supply for the needs of the Madras City to supplement the Red Hills tank. There was a proposal to devise schemes to bring water from Kortelliar river and to tap the underground springs in Madras City itself to supply water for non-drinking purposes. Sir, the Government has been good enough to get water for the ryots of Tanjore from distant Mettur. Government are good enough to devise hydro-electric schemes to get electric power to distant Madras from the Pykara scheme. I do not think the Government could view with disfavour the proposals that are in the air to get water for the Madras City. Now, the Government say they are going to give compensation. It is proposed by hon. Members representing this city to reserve the whole of the water to the city by purchasing the ryots' rights under the tank. It involves a large expenditure as I told the House already. Further, in these matters of compensation, the agriculturists are not easily satisfied with the amount that is granted by Government and general litigation ensues which also involves a large amount of expenditure to Government. Taking these things into consideration, Government ought not to grudge spending a portion at least of the

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amount intended to be paid as compensation and for other expenses and devise schemes to bring water to satisfy the needs at least of a portion of the Madras City, if not the whole, and thus relieve the required water for irrigating the lands under the Red Hills tank."

* Dr. B. S. MALLAYYA :—"Sir, the hon. Member for Chingleput has made a fine case with the material at his disposal showing that the lake is for the use of the Red Hills ryots. Sir, this is a long question that takes us back to the days of the Mutiny. Up to that time, the City of Madras was supplied with water from wells and tanks but they got contaminated by the sewage that was allowed to soak into the ground. Various schemes were devised and the first was by Major General O'Connel in 1856. His scheme costing about Rs. 44 lakhs provided for an anicut at Pashali above the railway crossing, turning the Kortalliyar into the Coovum river and feeding, at the same time, the irrigation tanks at Sanji, Kadambattur, Puttalur and Pakkam, the surplus water being stored in the Red Hills tank. An open channel was to convey water to two basins in Madras for detailed distribution in the City. In 1866, Mr. Fraser working on the basis of this scheme made an improvement on it with a view to lessen the cost avoiding all irrigation tanks. He suggested the construction of an anicut at Tambarampakam across the Kortallayar. The water was to be diverted by a channel $8\frac{1}{2}$ miles in length to Cholavaram tank. From this another channel 2 miles long brought water to Red Hills lake. Both these lakes were also to be enlarged and improved. The latter $7\frac{1}{2}$ miles long is to bring water to the City of Madras. The total cost of the scheme then was Rs. 18.5 lakhs. It was completed in 1872 and it was a scheme mainly undertaken for supplying the City of Madras, its garrison and public establishments, with an abundant and wholesome supply of water. Irrigation was out of question, but as there was more water than necessary for the use of the City of Madras, the surplus water was allowed for irrigation. The area for irrigation under the Red Hills lake before the scheme was only 800 acres and after the scheme the area under irrigation gradually rose up and to day it is 7,500 acres for first crop and 3,500 acres for the second crop. The City is supplied with only 1,000 million cubic feet while for irrigation they are given double that amount, i.e., 2,000 million cubic feet of water. The Corporation pays now Rs. 32,000 for the water supplied to them while the cultivators pay only half the amount for double the supply. The prior claims of the municipality to Red Hills water have been recognized in the Proceedings of the Madras Government, dated 30th October 1868. Again, G.O. No. 65, dated 10th June 1872, says: 'It is unfair to tax Madras Presidency generally with the cost of the project undertaken particularly on behalf of the City of Madras for which there seems no doubt the municipality could well afford to pay'. A subsequent order of the 'Madras Government No. 1548 of June 2nd, 1875, says: 'With town supply agriculturists have nothing to do as the project was primarily undertaken for the supply of water to the City of Madras. The volume available for irrigation is only a necessity when there is much water in reserve after conserving for municipal consumption.' Later still G.O. No. 310, dated 24th April 1904, said that water-supply to Madras was of paramount importance and totally outweighed the claims of irrigation.

"I may here refer to the rules for regulation of water in the Red Hills tank.

[Dr. B. S. Mallayya.]

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"Firstly all water supplied for irrigation including seed beds under the Red Hills tank will be cut off when water falls to plus 38 or below. Secondly, from the 1st July to 31st August no water shall be issued from the Red Hills tank except for the Madras Municipal water supply. Lastly, if water is below plus 40 feet on the 1st of January in the Red Hills tank, the Collector of Chingleput should be consulted as to the advisability of restricting the area for the second crop.

"The preferential claims of the city were again recognized when in 1884 there was a big cyclone wiping out the Red Hills lake, flooding the northern portion of the City and the Government promptly diverted water from Korattur lake to supply the City and when the ryots there protested, they were plainly told that the interests of the public of Madras were greater than those of their crops.

"I should like then, to refer to the financial aspect of this question and the benefit accruing to the City and the Government. Five and half lakhs of residents in the City of Madras are paying 1½ lakhs for 1,000 million cubic feet of water supplied to them while 2,000 million cubic feet of water supplied for 500 acres of the ryots yield only Rs. 1,60,000 as water-rate and about 1½ lakhs land revenue. If the whole water is supplied to the City for domestic use and for flush out latrines, as water-rate the income from the latter alone will be Rs. 20 lakhs per annum, and there will also be more demand for water from manufacturers and shippers. The total income to the City from this exclusive supply will be Rs. 40 lakhs per annum and more. The drainage scheme in the City will be working in full swing and the mortality of the City will be reduced by 50 per cent, as in the case of Colombo which started the drainage scheme with us but completed it before us which reduced the mortality from 58 to 29.

"Is it proper, Sir, that sixty thousand homesteads in Madras must have a prior claim for water for drinking and domestic use than 500 homesteads around the Red Hills ayacut many of the owners of which are living in Madras.

"In conclusion, I should say a word about increasing the storage capacity of the lake. Before the inauguration of the Fraser's scheme, the Red Hills lake was a tiny little thing with a catchment area of 23 square miles. After the scheme, this catchment area increased to 977 square miles. The scheme devised for the City has benefited the ryots forty-fold by increasing the area of irrigation and not satisfied with this, they claim more. At present, there is an imperative need to raise the full tank level. But the Government engineers are said to be nervous. Originally, the tank bund stood at 47'36 feet.

"After the cyclone it was reduced by 3 feet and various safety devices were provided to prevent a breach in the future. There is a stone cross wall, a number of sluices, increased protection walls provided as a protection against severe storms. Mr. Madely, an expert engineer himself said that the full tank level could be safely raised by 18 inches and if this is done the storage capacity of the lake will be increased by 600 millions cubic feet. The cost is not supposed to be more than Rs. 80,000. It is high time that the Government do something for this primary need of the City's supply."

8-15 p.m. * Mr. SAMI VENKATACHALAM CHETTI:—"Mr. President, Sir, this question of the Red Hills water supply, has become very urgent on account of the fact that the Corporation is being pressed time after time by Messrs.

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Binny & Co. for the supply of water to their mills. We have received very recently an order from the Secretary to the Local Self-Government Department—I am sorry the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government is not here in his place—asking for a conference of representatives of the Corporation and the Company on the possibility of the supply of water from the Red Hills lake to mills of Messrs. Binny & Co., as the Corporation have given guarantees for the supply of water to them. As has been admitted by the hon. the Law Member, the Corporation of Madras has a prior claim to the Red Hills water. Just to ensure against bad years, we made a proposal to increase the full tank level of the lake. At one time, the Government was inclined to accept the proposal and to construct the work. The correspondence on the matter lasted from the year 1916 till 1926, when they stated that their present advisers advised that any raising of the F.T.L. or the bund was impracticable. Under this excuse, the Government are, as a matter of fact, coercing us to accept the proposal of Messrs. Binny & Co., to get a separate supply of water to their mills in the City of Madras. This is a very vicious principle of allowing a third party, any other party than the local authority, to bring in a separate water-supply into the city. I find from inquiries made from the Chingleput cultivators that they are not disinclined to have their lands acquired either by the Government or by the Corporation and be done with this problem. For, they are always in a state of suspense. They can never rely on the adequate supply of water from the Red Hills lake because the sword of the Corporation supply is always hanging over them. It seems to me, that the Government, both in the Irrigation and Local Self-Government Departments, ought conjointly with the Corporation of Madras to come to some arrangement by which an adequate supply of water to the City of Madras is ensured. The proposal does not seem to be very difficult or insurmountable. The cost of acquisition of all the cultivable land under this lake in the Chingleput district will be about Rs. 40 lakhs. If the whole supply of water is ensured to us, there is a likelihood of the income that we may derive from the increased supply of water to the consumers, being set off in payment of the sinking fund charges and interest on the outlay, provided, of course, the Government give a loan as a special case. I am not convinced that the question of raising the F.T.L. is such an impracticable thing, because once, the Government's expert opinion was in favour of raising it. There is no good of stating now that it cannot be done. I therefore beg the hon. the Member for Irrigation and the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government to go into this question and cancel the supply to Messrs. Binny & Co. from the Kortalliyar. For, that means practically taking away the spring source of supply to the city and thus denying a possible additional supply to the City of Madras. So, I particularly request that there should be co-ordination between the two departments of Government and that they should not grant any such licence on the score of industrial importance."

* Mr. S. MUTTAYYA MUDALIYAR :—" Mr. President, Sir, I rise to speak on this question as a resident of Madras, as a person who has lived here for about 25 years and who wishes to enjoy the amenities of the Madras City. I very much wish that the Corporation had the first claim for the Red Hills water. But it is not so and we cannot add to the amenities of the Madras City at the cost of the cultivators who also draw water from the Red Hills. The hon. Member Mr. Sami Venkatachalam Chetti, as an exponent and as a

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representative of the City of Madras, had fortunately the support of the hon. the Law Member in saying that the Red Hills lake was first intended for the water-supply of Madras. I am afraid he is wrong historically. He is wrong because of the fact that the Red Hills tank seems to have been in existence long before Madras became a city, even when it was a fishing village, even before anybody thought that Madras would develop into a city. Before the hon. Member went on to insist on the right of the Madras Corporation to the full waters of the Red Hills tank, he must have referred to the agreements and orders between 1852 and 1882 as to the quantity of water that the Corporation of Madras was entitled to. I understand there is a Government Order of the year 1882 by which one-third of the supply of water is to go to the Madras City, and the rest two-thirds is for the irrigation of the lands under the Red Hills tank. If the figures supplied to me are correct, about 12,000 million cubic feet of water are to be used for the irrigation of the lands and only 5,000 million cubic feet for the City of Madras. No doubt, as I understand, during the past years it has been in the inverse ratio, and I believe for the first time, in 1926-27, the whole supply of water to the cultivators has been cut off. Originally the agreement was that the supply of water to the Madras city was only for domestic purposes. Now. . . . "

Dr. B. S. MALLAYYA :—" May I know the number of the Government Order from the hon. Member ? "

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" He may apply to him privately."

* Mr. S. MUTTAYYA MUDALIYAR :—" If he wants to know the number of the Government Order I am willing to give it. It is G.O. No. 604 I., dated 2nd August 1882. If the hon. Member will refer to it, he will be able to find out the fact, and if there is any inaccuracy in what I say I shall be glad to be corrected, because the figures I have "

Dr. B. S. MALLAYYA :—" Twelve thousand million "

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" The hon. Member will resume his seat. The other hon. Member has not yielded "

* Mr. S. MUTTAYYA MUDALIYAR :—" I take it my figures are correct or approximately correct, and if I am wrong, the hon. the Law Member will correct me."

* Dr. B. S. MALLAYYA :—" They are not correct at all."

* Mr. S. MUTTAYYA MUDALIYAR :—" It is for him to pit his figures against mine, and I am not going to take my figures from my hon. Friend."

* Dr. B. S. MALLAYYA :—" They are given "

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" No interruptions please."

* Mr. S. MUTTAYYA MUDALIYAR :—" Sir, Mr. President, if the exigencies of the Madras City and its growing population require more water to be supplied for the City of Madras, I do not say that the Madras City shall be deprived of necessary its supply. But do not do it at the cost of the unfortunate people who own lands under the Red Hills tank. Pay for them. Let the Corporation acquire the lands paying decent compensation and get all the water. I do not object to that. But we do say that it is wrong before the acquisition is made, before any compensation is given, to cut off the supply of water for irrigation because the Madras Corporation as a strong body can

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influence the Madras Government, and make the lands uncultivable, and yet for the Government to demand revenue from them, make these poor ryots pay for what they do not enjoy, for what they are deprived of by the Corporation, and that deprivation being assisted by the Government. It is an anomaly which nobody can put up with or tolerate. In the circumstances, what I say is that the Government should tell the ryots that they can no longer supply water to their lands and that their lands will be acquired for a proper price. But before paying any proper compensation, to tell the ryots that the Red Hills tank was intended for the Madras City without reference to the rights they were enjoying till now, is absolutely opposed to facts and is quite unjust for the Government and the Madras Corporation. I trust the Corporation of Madras will feel the injustice of the case, and I hope that Government will deal fairly with the ryots of the Red Hills. If this Government or the Corporation do not deal with the ryots fairly, I think there are other authorities which will do justice to the ryots, and I am perfectly sure that the ryots will not be lacking in anything to resort to those authorities when the need for action arises."

* The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—" Mr. President, Sir, there has been a considerable amount of controversy on what may be called the ancient history. Advertence was made to a Government Order of 1882. I take it, it is G.O. No. 604 I., dated 2nd August 1882. While that Government order indicates the preceding history of the scheme and finally gives a summary of the account of what happened in the year 1866 up to 1882 or thereabouts, it says that the original idea was to have a 'project for the storage of water in the Cholavaram and Red Hills tank, with the view of increasing the capacity of those reservoirs for irrigation, as well as of providing the City of Madras, its garrison and public establishments, with an abundant and wholesome supply of water.' I would be inaccurate if I did not also add that the scheme also contemplated the irrigation of between 8,000 and 9,000 acres of waste lands, and it was anticipated that the returns from irrigation would suffice to pay a higher interest on the estimated outlay. Now the position is very shortly traceable. I shall first deal with this question of the raising of the F.T.L. So far as this matter is concerned, it may be dismissed without much discussion. After a very exhaustive examination by the engineering experts it was stated that it was not possible to raise the F.T.L. for the following reasons. The Red Hills and Cholavaram tanks are old tanks enlarged by recent bunds and without taking any bunds to connect the old and the new works they have leaked always and will leak more when the F.T.L. is raised."

* Dr. B. S. MALLAYYA :—" They are leaking to-day."

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—" Special repairs and 3-30
works to minimise the leakage have been carried out at various times P.M.
in the past, and similar requirements will occur with greater frequency if the F.T.L. is raised. Engineering opinion is that you cannot arise the F.T.L. without demolishing the old bund and constructing one consolidated bund. They have raised the old bund without connecting it with the new and it is difficult, unless you do the work all over again to raise the F.T.L. The position therefore is that we have been advised by the engineering experts that the question of raising the F.T.L. may be left out of account as a practical proposition. The only

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alternative is the acquisition by the Corporation of the existing irrigation rights of the ryots. At one time, this question was raised and debated upon, and there were two opinions on its. It was stated at one time that the municipality would enter into negotiation with the various ryots for the purpose of an agreement as to the acquisition of those rights. But later on, different views seemed to have prevailed in the Corporation, and the Corporation came to the tentative conclusion that under the present financial condition of the Corporation the proposition of acquiring the irrigation rights of the ryots was not a feasible one. The position therefore is very shortly this. The only way to adjust the very chronic differences that have arisen between the contending claims of the Corporation and of the ryots under the Cholavaram tank is not to increase the F.T.L. for, an adjustment of their differences necessarily involved an outlay by the Corporation.

“With reference to the suggestions that have emanated from the hon. the Leader of the Opposition whose acquaintance with the Corporation problems is varied and extensive, all I can say is that the Government in the Irrigation department would not be averse to a conference at which the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government and the Corporation of Madras would combine together for the purpose of negotiation with the ryots. With reference to what has fallen from the hon. Member for Tanjore, I would say that nobody has ever conceived the idea of negating or rejecting the rights of the ryots in Cholavaram.”

* MR. S. MUTTAYYA MUDALIYAR :—“I only said that without paying compensation you should not deprive them of their rights.”

* The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—“As to that, I have the answer. It is not admitted by Government there has been any deprivation of any of the existing rights of the ryots under the Cholavaram and Red Hills tanks inasmuch as it is pretty well a part of history that the primary charge upon the water is the supply for the needs of Madras. And we do not admit that there is any cause of action—I am using that legal expression in regard to the very last sentence which emanated from the hon. Member from Tanjore. No cause of action has arisen so far as the ryots are concerned. In regard to infringement of rights, that does not connote anything more than this: they have got certain mamul rights or existing rights; these rights have to be eliminated in a certain manner; they can be eliminated only by a process of negotiation between the Corporation and the ryots; we give all the assistance to the Corporation to enable that body to enter effectively into those questions, so that there may be an adjustment of the mutual rights by purchase. It will have to be discussed by the department concerned in consultation with the representatives of the ryots and the Corporation. I have no doubt that the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government will help in the matter, because it is up to everyone to see that the water-supply of the metropolis is kept in the best possible condition. The Government are also indebted to the suggestions that have fallen from Dr. Mallayya in regard to the possibilities of recouping any possible outlay or expenditure incurred or incurable by means of the negotiations, by the proper economical utilization of the water in order to achieve the best possible results and get a good income.”

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* The hon. Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN :—“ Mr. President, I would not have intervened in this debate were it not for the point raised by the hon. the Leader of the Opposition. He referred to the water-supply from the Kortalliyur and the concession that was being granted to Messrs. Binny & Co. for water-supply to their mills. My hon. Friend the Raja Sahib, who was in charge of the portfolio before, took great care to consult the Corporation and abide by the wishes of that body as much as possible. He tried to bring the two parties together at a conference held in his room, but that resulted in no agreement between the members of the Corporation and Messrs. Binny & Co.'s officials who were present on that occasion. This matter of supplying water to Messrs. Binny & Co.'s mills has been under the consideration of the Government for nearly five years now with no result. I am sure my hon. Friend the Member for the City will agree with me when I say that the industrial needs of the city also have got to be met. But I hope to try to bring both these together in a conference and I hope a satisfactory arrangement would be come to. I can say this, that Government as far as it lies in their power, have tried to consult the Corporation and take their views. My hon. Friend the Raja Sahib has done what he could to bring about a settlement acceptable to both parties. I hope we shall be able to come to a satisfactory conclusion on that point.

“ With regard to the full tank level which my hon. Friend the Leader of the Opposition spoke about, it will not be possible to raise it for the obvious reason that even with the level as it exists now there is not enough water in the tank. I hope my hon. Friend will take my word that we will not be doing anything without consulting the Corporation.”

The motion was by leave withdrawn.

* Mr. Chavadi K. SUBRAHMANYA PILLAI :—“ I move

‘ to reduce the allotment of Rs. 15,31,000 for maintenance and repairs by Rs. 100 ’.

“ Mr. President, Sir, during the budget discussions last year, the attention of this House was drawn by me to the very deplorable condition in which the Manur channel and the tanks fed by it were kept by the Government.

“ Nothing has been done till now to improve the condition of this channel, which runs a course of about 21 miles and empties itself into the Manur tank. This tank and other tanks fed by this channel suffer very much by the constant breaches occurring in the channel bunds.

“ Repairs to this channel were investigated by the Tank Restoration Scheme Party in 1906 and an estimate of Rs. 40,000 was prepared and sanctioned. Again, the Tank Restoration Scheme Party investigated the channel in 1916 and an estimate for Rs. 62,000 was prepared in 1917. For some reason or other, the proposals were kept in the Collector's office, without any action, till the matter was taken up again in 1923, at the instance of the then Collector, and it was reported that the estimate would, at the then rate, come to Rs 85,000

“ I put many questions and supplemental questions about this Manur channel during the last three years but in vain. I therefore request the hon. the Law Member in charge of Irrigation to devote his personal attention to this

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important and urgent work and to see that the works of closing the breaches in the bunds of the Manur channel and those on the northern and southern sides of the Manur anicut across the Chittar river are immediately taken up and that the silt on the bed of the Manur channel is removed, bringing the depth of the channel to its original bed level. Unless and until this is done, there will be no free flow of water in the channel and there will also be no safety for the bunds of the channel. The sad state of this channel involves great loss to the Government in the shape of revenue and to the poor ryots; for, these poor ryots had to put up with frequent failure of crops and sustained heavy loss during the current year, 1926-27, by complete failure of crops on about 3,150 acres of ayan wet lands. The hon. the Revenue Member is also requested to provide sufficient funds in the current year's budget for repairs to this channel, especially the portions on the northern and southern sides of the Manur anicut, which have been completely washed away during the heavy floods of 1925."

* The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—" With regard to this matter, Sir, the same hon. Member raised this question last year and the year before last. The real trouble is that the execution of repairs has been held up pending the decision with regard to the amount of contribution payable by the Uttumalai Estate. As a matter of fact, until the Uttumalai Estate and the Government come to a kind of agreement on the matter nothing can be done, and the Estate's liability for payment of contribution is still under correspondence between the Collector and the Receiver of the Estate. But I may assure my hon. Friend that as soon as the Collector and the Receiver are able to enter into a binding contract, the matter will be taken up."

* Mr. K. R. VENKATARAMA AYYAR :—" I only wish to say one word with regard to the Manur channel. This is a very important source of irrigation concerning a large area of wet lands in the Tinnevely district. The project has been hanging fire for a long time. The recent floods have made havoc of the whole irrigation works and the ryots have sustained enormous losses and the Government also have sustained loss of revenue. My Friend Mr. Chavadi Subrahmanya Pillai has been bringing to the notice of this House the importance of this subject during three successive years during budget discussions and on other occasions also. Except the sympathetic replies that the Chief Engineer and the Superintending Engineer have been asked to expedite the work, no progress has been made. This is a matter on which I do not think the hon. the Law Member or anybody else concerned can put us off by saying that because the Uttumalai Estate also is concerned in the affair, the whole thing has to wait. Uttumalai is concerned with a small extent of 600 acres, whereas Government land is 3,000 and odd acres. I do not think that Government can put off the ryotwari pattadars of 3,000 acres with the argument that till some person on behalf of the Estate comes forward and bears his share of the expenditure to be incurred the whole matter should hang fire. I do not think that is a proper attitude for the Government to take up. The Government must push on with this matter and when they have incurred the cost it would be quite easy for them, it ought to be, at any rate, to realize the necessary contribution from the Uttumalai estate. I do not think this is a matter which consistently with the interests of the Government and of the pattadars can brook even a moment's delay."

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* Mr. L. K. TULASIRAM :—“The reason, Sir, why two Members who actually are not representing the district affected speak on this subject is that this subject deserves more consideration at the hands of this hon. House. Manur channel is a channel which cuts off from the Chittar river in the Tenkasi taluk of the Tinnevely district. It is a channel 21 miles long. No doubt, it passes through the Uttumalai Estate and irrigates 3,000 acres of ayacut ayan lands. Really, on account of floods both the gateways on the southern and northern sides of the Manur anicut are in a very bad and miserable condition. The silt has not been removed from this river for the last so many years and no repairs have been made to this river for, I would, say, nearly half a century. The river, which is nearly a furlong wide, has been studded with rank growth of plants, shrubs and also trees, Sir, which impede the free flow of water into this Manur channel. The ryots have suffered in the twelve villages which this Manur channel irrigates. They have lost heavily. There has been a failure of crops and the Government have lost a very heavy revenue—a revenue of about Rs. 15,000—in the current year. There was a memorandum—a promise given by the Superintending Engineer, VI Circle—in the month of June 1906 that the estimate for repairing the channel and the anicut was ready and would be submitted to the Government in a week. Sir, we are now 20 years older after the promise; and yet the promise given by the Superintending Engineer in June 1906 remains unfulfilled. The hon. the Law Member has an excellent excuse. He says that this is a complicated question as it involves the contribution to be made by the Zamindar of Uttumalai. Sir, after all, in whose hands are the Uttumalai Estates now? I think the estates are in the hands of the Court of Wards. So it is the voice of the Government on the one side as well as on the other, that has to speak. That being the case, if they have the will, they can incur the expenditure and get the necessary contribution from the Uttumalai Estate. Therefore, I say they are postponing the thing unnecessarily and I would say they have been culpably negligent in the matter of repairing this Manur channel.”

The motion was put and negatived.

Sriman BISWANATH DAS Mahasaya :—“Sir, I rise to move”

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—“When the Leader of the Opposition Mr. Sami Venkatachalam Chetti, said that some motions including this were not going to be moved, if the hon. Member really wanted to move his motion he ought to have mentioned to me that the Leader of the Opposition was mentioning the facts wrongly.”

* Sriman BISWANATH DAS Mahasaya :—“In view of the statement made by the Leader of the Opposition, I am not moving my motion under 15-B (2) (a) Works.”

MR. B. VENKATARAMNAM, in moving that the allotment of Rs. 1,14,900 for Godavari Delta System be reduced by Rs. 100, spoke as follows :—

“కోరంగి బలందు ప్రాజెక్టుకు చాలకాలము క్రిందటనే అంచనాలు (ఎస్టిమేట్లు) తయారై అమలులో పెట్టుటకు సిద్ధముగ ఉన్నప్పటికి ప్రభుత్వమువారు వానిని అమలులో పెట్టియుండ

* 347. To reduce the allotment of Rs. 1,38,000 for works by Rs. 100 (to discuss the necessity of utilising the Famine Insurance Fund for construction of protective works).

[Mr. B. Venkataratnam]

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లేదు. దీనికి ఖర్చు 6 లక్షలకంటే ఎక్కువకాదు. దానిని తిరిగి ప్రస్తుతము మార్పుజేసిన ఎక్కువగునేమా కాని లేనిచో అంతకంటే ఎక్కువ అక్కరలేదు. ఇది చాలా చిన్న ప్రాజెక్టు. దీని నింతవరకు ఎందుకమలులో పెట్టి పనిచేయలేదో నా కాశ్యర్యమగుచున్నది. కావున గవర్నమెంటువారు వెంటనే పని ప్రారంభించురని నమ్ముచున్నాను.

“తూర్పు గోదావరి జిల్లాలో నీరంతలేరు పాములేరు అని రెండు నదులు ప్రవహించుచున్నవి. వీనికి అనకట్టను కట్టుటవలన ఎంతవరకు లాభకరముగనుండునో విచారణగావించుటవలన అనేకములగు పెట్టు తొలూకాలకు చాల లాభము గలుగగలదు. రాజమండ్రి తొలూకాలో కొరిగడ్డ అనే కాలువ వున్నది. ఈ మురుగు కాలువల నీరు ప్రవహించుటవలన భూములలోని వైరు ప్రతిమారు పాడౌతూయుండును. దీనికి షట్టరులు కట్టుట సాధ్యముగాదని ప్రభుత్వము వారికి ఇంజనీయరులు చెప్పినట్లు వింటున్నాము. ప్రభుత్వోద్యోగులు కాక గొప్ప ఇంజనీయరులు కొందరు సాధ్యమని చెప్పియున్నారు. కాబట్టి ఈ షట్టరులను నిర్మించుటవలన పంటకు నీడమైయుండిన భూములు పాడైపోకుండ సంరక్షింపబడగలవు.

“మరొక విషయ మేమనిన ముఖ్యముగ డెల్టా తొలూకాలలో మురుగుకు సరియైన ఏర్పాటు చేయకపోవుటవలన చాల నష్టము గలుగుచున్నది. డ్రైనేజీకి ఒక శక్ష్ణ విర్పాటుచేయుచున్నామని చెప్పినారు. ఇంతమాత్రముజేత ఏమిలాభములేదు. మురుగు కాలువలు బాగుచేయించి ఏర్పాటుచేస్తేనేగాని లేకపోలే పండిన పంటగూడ పాడైపోవును.”

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—“Four points have been raised in the debate initiated by my hon. Friend. I shall deal with the Coringa Island project first. So far as that is concerned, the proposal is to extend the Godavari Delta Irrigation to the Coringa is land through the Bank Canal of the Eastern Delta. The matter is dealt with, as hon. Members are aware, at page 10 of Mr. Morgan's report. He points out that the area that will be irrigated is 13,250 acres from which a net revenue of Rs. 56,071 was anticipated in 1916 and that even this represented a return of $4\frac{1}{2}$ per cent on the then estimated cost of Rs. 4,69,300. The estimate was under revision by the Superintending Engineer and the estimate will probably amount to Rs. 12½ lakhs. I may say that as the area to be irrigated was only 12,250 acres and as the estimate amounted to 12½ lakhs, it was decided to go on with the scheme if there were no engineering obstacles or difficulties. At the present moment, a scheme is under consideration of the Chief Engineer and the Government expects to have his report in the course of a month. That is with regard to the Coringa Island project.

“The other question was with regard to the Thorrigedda. As to that the position is this. It was initiated in 1872 and last year, Sir Venkatareddi Nayudu raised a question on the subject. My answer was:

‘The original proposal to construct the Thorrigedda outfall sluice has been abandoned and the scheme for utilizing the waters of the Sithapalli river and supplementing the supply with water from Pamuluru was found financially impracticable.’

“In February 1927 my hon. Friend the Minister for Development inspected the site in Thorrigedda scheme and he has sent a minute on the subject suggesting that the matter should be pushed vigorously because, in his opinion, there were certain aspects which were lost sight of in the previous papers

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relating to the subject. From that point of view the department has been instructed to go into the matter and send up a report. That is all I have to say."

The motion was by leave withdrawn.

* The hon. the PRESIDENT —"I would inform hon. Members that the demand will be put to vote at three minutes after 4."

MR. SAMI VENKATACHALAM CHETTI —"Sir, I have just one submission to make. I am very sorry that after my submission to you that so far as the opposition is concerned, certain of the motions will not be moved, my hon. Friend, Mr. Venkataratnam, moved his motion probably unaware of the statement that I made."

MR. G. HARISARVOTTAMA RAO —"Sir, I move that—

"the allotment of Rs. 12,00,000 for cost of land be reduced by Rs. 100'.

"Mr. President, Sir, I am not an expert and I do not speak as an expert. I am not one who would rule out experts, but I do not want experts to rule me. I want experts to serve me and, therefore, I have asked in this out that a committee of this House, elected by this House, be appointed to be consulted. That is the last object I have mentioned in the out.

"The hon. the Law Member once speaking on this question said that in other places mortar was in vogue but it has been replaced by cement. I would ask him if surki mortar has been tried. I understand it has been tried in the bridges of Madras and they have done very well. I would ask him to minimise the use of cement absolutely and to see that only Indian material, i.e., surki mortar is used in the work.

"I will now refer to the replacement of manual labour by machinery. He said in one of his replies that he was practically trying an experiment with machines. If he finds that the cost on account of machine labour is somewhere near the cost that would have to be incurred in the case of manual labour, I am sure he should without any demur use manual labour alone.

"Then with regard to the absence of an Irrigation Law I understand that 4 p.m. the hon. the Law Member has been challenged on this question with regard to the Tungabhadra project. He seems to have stated at one time that without an Irrigation Law it could not be carried out. It is up to him to show now how he can get on without an Irrigation Law. The only course open to him is to introduce an Irrigation Bill giving the power of fixing the water rates to the Council as the Council desired.

"For the rest, I have my own doubts regarding the experts of the bureaucracy. They are not under our control; we cannot make them bend to our will. Though the hon. the Law Member is an Indian, he is part of the bureaucracy and he is not under our vote. He also belongs to that class of experts who have ruled us. Let us not hereafter be ruled by this class; let them on the other hand be of service to us. If the hon. the Law Member concedes the demand of the House, certainly, I think he can carry on the work easily. It should not be taken that I have opposed the irrigation scheme as an irrigation scheme. I am in want of water very badly and I am in sympathy with irrigation schemes. The Ceded districts are proverbially dry districts.

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I am not opposed to this irrigation scheme unless the House finds it has no control in this matter over experts. I should like to tell the hon. the Law Member that this House would not be so easy of control with regard to this grant unless he concedes the rights of this House."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT —“The time allotted for the demand having expired and the motion now moved in the House not having matured into a question I cannot put the motion to the House. I therefore put the Demand to the House."

The question that Government be granted a sum not exceeding 234.63 lakhs under Demand VII—Irrigation—Public Works Officers --was put to the House and carried. The grant was made.

DEMAND VIII—GENERAL ADMINISTRATION—HEADS OF PROVINCES.

* The hon. Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—“Sir, on the recommendation of His Excellency the Governor I move.

‘that Government be granted a sum not exceeding Rs. 5.95 lakhs under Demand VIII—General Administration—Heads of Provinces.’”

* Mr. S. SATYAMURTI :—“Sir, as this is a very important matter, may I make a humble submission to you to give me 20 minutes, as I am raising the question of Constitutional Reforms on this Demand ?”

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—“Yes.”

* Mr. S. SATYAMURTI :—“Mr. President, Sir, you will agree with me that it is proper that I should raise the question of further constitutional reforms for this province and particularly the grant of provincial autonomy under this demand for the Staff and Household of the Governor. Writing on the position of the Governor under the Reforms Scheme, the Joint Select Committee of Parliament on the Government of India Bill say :

‘The position of the Governor will thus be one of great responsibility and difficulty, and also of great opportunity and honour. He may have to hold the balance between divergent policies and different ideals, and to prevent discord and friction. It will also be for him to help with sympathy and courage the popular side of his Government in their new responsibilities. He should never hesitate to point out to Ministers what he thinks is the right course or to warn them if he thinks they are taking the wrong course. But if, after hearing all the arguments, Ministers should decide not to adopt his advice, then, in the opinion of the Committee, the Governor should ordinarily allow Ministers to have their way fixing the responsibility upon them, even if it may subsequently be necessary for him to veto any particular piece of legislation. It is not possible but that in India, as in all other countries, mistakes will be made by Ministers, acting with the approval of a majority of the Legislative Council, but there is no way of learning except through experience and by the realization of responsibility.’

“It is because the Joint Committee of Parliament has cast upon the Governor this high, honourable and responsible duty of seeing to it that the Reforms are worked properly that I submit, Mr. President, it is proper for me to move my motion under the Demand of the hon. the Home Member for the Staff and Household of the Governor. Hon. Members will notice that by means of this motion I am not raising the large question of Swaraj which is an All-India question. I have confined myself to the question of further constitutional reforms and the grant of provincial autonomy. My object is to abolish diarchy as a system of Government. I am sure it is too late in the

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day for me to try to prove that diarchy as a system of Government cannot be worked. It must be conceded by any one who understands the A, B, C of politics or Government. Government has always been and always will be whole and indivisible. You cannot cut it up into two halves, and expect absence of friction and harmonious working which are essential for responsible Government.

“Moreover, Sir, let me give an analogy, which I am sure the English and the Scotch Members of this Council will appreciate. Supposing as a result of the last war, Germany had conquered Great Britain and appointed a German Governor over England and divided the subject of English administration as Law and Order, Finance, Revenue, Jails and Forests and so on, and vested them in the hands of German Executive Councillors, with whom three unfortunate Englishmen were asked to work as Ministers, having to get their doles from the Finance Member who happened to be a German and they were all asked to work the system, I ask every self-respecting Englishman and Scotchman in the House as man to man whether they will agree to work this system. Of course the answer of the Englishman will be, ‘Germany has not conquered England and we should all die, rather than allow Germany conquer England. You, Indians, we have conquered you, and you are under our heels. If you can, throw us off.’ I understand that answer; I respect that answer. As Mahatma Gandhi said, I wish we have the modern weapons by which we can drive out the foreigners from this country. But let the bureaucracy remember that they cannot eternally resist the advancing waves of modern democracy, without driving an angry, self-respecting people to despair and turning this country into another and bigger Ireland. It is because we believe, extremists as we are, that this question can be solved with good will on either side that we are here. I am therefore raising a very modest question of further constitutional reforms and provincial autonomy for this province. To prove that diarchy has failed in its working and, that it should be substituted by provincial autonomy, I have the very high authority of two of the ex-Ministers who, evidently because discussion on the Reserved subjects are over, are now taking rest elsewhere. They have given their views to the Muddiman Committee. I am reading from the summary of the opinion of the Madras Government which was despatched to the Muddiman Committee. Referring to the Ministers they say that they insist, and in this there is no doubt that they reflect the opinion of the majority of the Legislative Council, that there should now be a complete transfer of all provincial subjects though they are willing to allow some undefined safeguards in respect of the subjects of Finance and Law and Order. They claim this complete transfer both on the ground that nothing less will satisfy public opinion and on the ground that it is justified by the manner in which the Legislative Council has conducted itself in the past three years and by the state of the political education of the Presidency. Then, Sir, the Madras Government again quote the Ministers as saying that in their view meaning the Ministers, the existing constitution, in so far as it lays down the relations between the Governor and the Ministers, does not tend to develop either joint Ministerial responsibility or Ministerial independence. Sir A. P. Patro, whom I miss very badly here now, says that ‘notwithstanding this, serious difficulties have been experienced in working the diarchical system. To begin with, the Legislative Council and the Ministers are placed in a very anomalous position. The system has not led to the development of responsible criticism and has had occasionally the opposite

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effect.' He says, further 'it has become increasingly difficult to continue the unity of Government as the Legislative Council now feels disappointed that co-operation with the Government in the sound administration of the country has not yet resulted in any progressive measures of responsibility.' Even more emphatic was his chief, the Raja of Panagal. In his evidence he says : 'We have either to go back upon the promise given in the announcement of August 1917 and have the old form of Government or advance a step further and be safe nearer the goal. The former course, I am afraid is not possible. The only course open is to advance forward. How we shall advance is a question. I think the best way to get out of the present awkward situation so far as the provinces are concerned is to concede full provincial autonomy under adequate safeguards.'

"These are not the opinions of Extremists or Swarajists or Congressmen, but of the pet children of the bureaucracy till the other day, the Justice Party Ministers, whose sense of responsibility, sanity, and soundness, calmness and statesmanship beggared description at the hands of the bureaucracy. If these men should state that diarchy has broken down and that it ought to be replaced by a more workable system of unitary Government, I suggest that the Government have no case to refuse the demand.

"Another point, Sir, the Muddiman Committee made several recommendations and Government have been very quick to carry out some of the more reactionary ones. I speak subject to correction, but I shall be glad to be informed if the recommendation that joint deliberation between the two sides of the Government, an important question, should be definitely settled by a Devolution Rule has been accepted. I do not think so. Sir, this is the majority report :

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p.m.

'The powers of control of the Governor over his Ministers should be more expressly indicated by the alteration of Clause 6 of the Instrument of Instructions so as to provide that, subject to the power of interference, to prevent unfair discrimination between classes and interests, to protect minorities and to safeguard his own responsibility for Reserved subjects and with regard to the interests of the members of the permanent Services, the Governor should not dissent from the opinion of his Ministers.'

"Even these two recommendations have not been given effect to. I would be surprised to know that they have been. Moreover, Sir, when this fact was pointed out, Sir Malcolm Hailey on behalf of the Government of India made a promise on the floor of the Legislative Assembly that, to the extent to which advance can be made under the Act by the exercise of the rule-making power, the Government would do so. Have they done? I submit, Mr. President, that the demand contained in my motion can be practically conceded without an amendment of the Act, because, all subjects excepting one subject may be transferred to the Ministers without an amendment of the Act. That is only an alteration to the schedule of the Act and even that has not been done.

"Then I want to say one word with regard to the recommendations of the minority of the Muddiman Committee because that clinches the whole matter so far as informed public opinion is concerned. The minority report was signed by Dr. T. B. Sapru, Sir P. S. Sivaswami Ayyar, Mr. Jinnah and Dr. Paranjpye.

'We think that the Behar Government has correctly summed up the position in the provinces by saying that diarchy is working creakily and minor remedies may cure a creak or two. To our mind, the proper question to ask is not whether any alternative transitional

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system can be devised but whether the constitution should not be put on a permanent basis, with provisions for automatic progress in the future so as to secure stability in the Government and willing co-operation of the people.'

"I have given the opinions of ex-Ministers both of this province and other provinces. I do not know what the present Ministers think. But they should be gods, or more than human, if in their experience they find it different from the experience of their colleagues in this and other provinces; sooner or later, they would find that under diarchy they are to carry out the behests of unseen powers, as I said the other day, and that under diarchy they do have or can have no power, initiative or responsibility. Let them try and I hope they will very soon find out that I am right. To believe that there is room under diarchy for ministerial performances of real, large and progressive programmes of the country to which the bureaucracy is opposed is a snare and a delusion.

"Moreover, Madras is the oldest of the British provinces and the Britisher thinks he is here for the purpose of training Orientals in the art and craft of self-government, and we at any rate claim as the oldest pupils of these super-eminent masters, to be fit for Swaraj even if other provinces are not! Moreover, Sir, we have no communal trouble in this Presidency of the size and of the proportions which you have in Northern India. There at least, the bureaucracy has got some excuse that the Hindus and Muhammadans are fighting though I do not grant it. Such fighting is the making of a third party in India and when that disappears, these fights will automatically disappear. To the extent to which these fights exist there, they do not exist in South India. I know probably the answer will be given that, here too, there are some troubles in the case of the people who are called depressed classes or the minority communities. To them I give the answer of one whose authority even the bureaucracy cannot question: 'The objections to this constitution urged are that it will work hardship to the minority and depressed communities. The minorities are generally privileged communities. They know they have to be behind and with us in the demand for concessions by way of constitutional progress. As to the depressed classes, they form the bulk of the proletariat. Their position may surely be improved under a democratic form of Government by franchise qualifications or by constituting special electorates for them.' This is the opinion of the Raja of Panagal. He says that 'communal troubles do not exist as an impediment to the progress of Swaraj'. Again and again, we are told by our candid English friends that we, who ask for it, are not keen on the extension of the franchise. Sir, speaking with a full sense of my responsibility, we on this side of the House, are prepared for full adult franchise for men and women over 21, and we know that the moment universal franchise is granted in this province, the whole House, except the official and nominated Members, would be full of Congressmen and Swarajists. Therefore, we are not afraid of universal franchise.

"Therefore, I suggest, Mr. President, that the case for immediate advance of this province in the direction of complete provincial autonomy is complete. The usual answers cannot be given except the answer that you cannot defend yourselves and therefore you ought not to get swaraj. That answer does not even smack of sincerity. There is a proverb in Tamil which means this: 'To get married one must be cured of his madness; to be cured

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of his madness he must get married.' The educated Indians in the Legislative Assembly have asked that the Indian Army should be thrown open to Indians. The answer of the Government is so unsatisfactory and insincere that men like Mr. Jinnah have told the House 'you are humbugs in this matter' on the floor of the Legislative Assembly. (A Voice.—What about Mr. Jayakar) So much the better. Sir, my point is this; when we ask the Government for service in the Army, they turn round and say 'you shall not be admitted.' When we ask for Swaraj, they say 'you are unfit or not willing to defend your country.' There is no answer for it except the feeling of the bureaucracy that the people to-day are not strong enough and united enough to enforce their demand at the point of the bayonet.

"But, Sir, I end as I began. I appeal to the bureaucracy to feel that once a great nation makes up its mind to attain its freedom, there is no power on earth, not even Great Britain, that can stand in its way. The only question, Mr. President, is whether that freedom of India is going to be achieved with the good-will of England or in spite of England. It is because we feel that if our case is put strongly on the floor of this House it may make some impression on the minds of Members here that this question is raised in the form of a budget motion. I know the fate of this motion so far as this Government are concerned. I know they will throw it into the waste-paper basket and imagine that they have saved the trouble. And I also know the fate of the motion so far as this House is concerned. Mr. President, if I may for a moment, include yourself, Sir, there is not one Indian in this House who does not feel with me that India demands swaraj, that India needs swaraj to-day and that India will be happy only under Swaraj. Limitations of office, limitations of various other considerations may prevent some from speaking and voting as freely as I do. But let the Englishmen here take it from me—I know Indians' minds better than they and I speak for every Indian here, official or non-official, elected or nominated—that they are one with me when I say that their hearts go out to me as I speak on these lines. If they are free to speak and vote, as I am free to speak and vote, they will speak and vote with me."

* MR. J. A. SALDANHA :—"Sir, in supporting this motion, I shall only refer to one or two arguments that are raised against granting the autonomy we seek. It is alleged that India is illiterate and ignorant as a body and therefore it is unfit for parliamentary responsible government. I ask, Sir, whether illiteracy has stood in the way of Parliamentary institutions. Look at Europe in the middle ages. In the middle ages, one in a million of the population was literate. Yet they had Parliament in England, with powers of taxation, with powers of legislation, of initiative in legislation and with powers of censuring Ministers. Have we got that power now? During the reign of Edward III, only one in a million of the population could read and write. Yet they had House of Commons with more powers of taxation and legislation and with more responsibility than we Indians do enjoy in this century, with all the advance that India has made in her literacy.

"Another objection that is raised is that India consists of several nations, of several races and speaking several languages. But has that defect stood in the way of getting constitutional Government? Look at the United States of America. There, there are very many races and so many languages spoken. Yet they have got the most advanced representative Government in the

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world. There are the Spaniards ; there are the Italians ; there are the Englishmen, the Irish and the Germans each with a different nation and talking a different language. In their legislative assemblies very many languages are spoken. One man speaks Spanish, another Italian and another English. Yet they have a responsible Government. Then take the Federal Government of Switzerland. They are three nations bound together and forming one united Government. There are the Germans ; there are the French and there are the Italians. In all these cases, several peoples combined have together and formed one national Government. In Germany there are the Austrians, the Saxons and the Hanoverians, once always in conflict with one another. We know that the history of the German Empire is one of conflict between races and religions. Yet they formed into one nation in the nineteenth century, and had a common Government. Now under the aegis of the British Government, India has got a union of different races, nations and religions. India has been united geographically and historically from the most ancient times, from the time of Asoka, Ramayana and the Mahabharata. India is now united under the bond of one Government, viz., the British Government. Thanks to the encouragement given to us in the past, we at this time feel ourselves one united nation. Surely, Sir, we feel that we are prepared for that constitutional advance to which we are entitled to at least under the present Reforms Act."

* Mr. ABDUL HAMID KHAN :— " Sir, in rising to support this motion, I do not believe that I need speak at length, because the mover of the motion has himself dealt with the entire question in a manner which I will not be able to add to in any respect. But I wish to say a few words and they are these. No country, no nation, has any right whatsoever to rule another nation. Whatever may be the reason, whatever may be the argument that may be advanced by the Britishers in this country and the bureaucracy that sits down tightly over us and has been ruling us for a century and a half and more, whatever may be the domestic troubles in this country, whatever may be the difficulties and differences that may affect the communities which inhabit this country, no alien nation has any right whatsoever to govern and rule over it. Mr. President, they seem to believe, as they have always expressed, in that theory of trusteeship which they take from one country to another. They state that they are the trustees of humanity in this world and that in due discharge of that trusteeship, they hold under subjection 300 millions of people of this country. That theory, Mr. President, has long ago been cast to the winds ; because it has been proved beyond a shadow of doubt that they have not been able to discharge even a hundredth part of that trusteeship which they took upon themselves. And to-day in our country we find, as we have been pointing out from day to day, famines and economic difficulties growing day by day, and it is enough to say that they have not been able to discharge even a small portion of their duties as trustees of this country. Mr. President, it was, I must admit, the introduction of these Reforms which to a very large extent has been responsible for argumenting the Hindu Muslim troubles. If the Reforms did give responsibility to the people of this country, if the Reforms did give power to the people of this country, I am sure that in the working of those Reforms and in the working of the Government under such Reforms, the people, Hindus, Mussalmans and Christians, could have adjusted their differences and could have known that after all, they are all governing their own country themselves and those minor

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[Mr. Abdul Hamid Khan]

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differences would not have occurred. But to-day, Sir, under a diarchical system of Government with no power, no initiative and no responsibility, those gentlemen who sit on those benches who are called Ministers, Ministers who are no better than a few pictures, enclosed as they are in a steel frame, feel powerless, feel that they cannot do anything without the behests, without the direction, without the initiative and without the authority of the other gentlemen who sit along with them on those benches constituting what is called the Reserved half. Mr. President, this reminds me of the fact that we, as it was given to us by Mahatma Gandhi, would have found it absolutely necessary and honest to continue to boycott this Council. After coming into this Council, Sir, I have found that it is nothing but a farce. We are no more than petition hearers. We are coming forward with the petitions of the people and we present them to our masters who sit before us, all to no purpose."

* Mr. A. KALESWARA RAO — "Mr President, I do not want to dilate upon the necessity for swaraj. That question has been already agreed to by all parties. We want Swaraj because it is our birthright, because we are fit for swaraj, and because we want it to-day. Every householder, every man, unless he be a lunatic, is entitled to manage the affairs of his own household. Similarly, every nation, whatever may be its difficulties, whatever may be its internal troubles, whatever may be the state of civilization in which it is, is certainly fit to rule itself, to manage its own affairs. It is upon this eternal principle of birthright that we demand swaraj. And we demand swaraj as a matter of right and not as a matter of grace. The Indian National Congress asked year after year, for swaraj but what did we get? We got diarchy in the provinces without any responsibility whatever in the Central Government. We asked for bread and we got a stone. The Governor has become the Nawab of the province. He with his Ministers on one side and with his Executive Councillors on the other side has become more autocratic than he was before the introduction of the Montford Reforms. The Legislative Council which ought to legislate for the people has no authority because so many checks and balances are put on the exercise of its powers. Certification can come in most cases and the Executive is irresponsible and the Ministers are helpless, except when they want to do mischief. The previous Ministry was praised very much by the Secretary of State for India, that it was a very strong and successful Ministry. They were a happy home. Why? Because they joined the bureaucracy and supported it in all the worst phases of repression. In the Local Self-Government Department, its reactionary, denational policy, communal hatred, communal jealousy and all these things, have brought the whole administration into a big muddle. And in the Education department, students were dismissed because they wore white khadder caps called Gandhi caps like those which myself and some other Members of this hon. House are wearing. Spinning was tabooed. Hindi was proscribed. Except these things, nothing was done in the department of education. Of course in Medicine, there are the I.M.S. people, there are the military people with claims that could not be overlooked. There are again, the I.C.S. Secretaries, there are the Collectors who are the representatives of the bureaucracy, having large control and influence over the municipalities and district boards, there is the Director of Public Instruction who is the Nawab in the Educational department. With all these checks and balances, with the Governor on one side having control over these Ministers, and with the steel frame on

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[Mr. A. Kaleswara Rao]

the other, the Ministers are practically helpless. The whole thing is in the hands of the Governor and of the Finance Member. We have not the power of the purse. How long can we get on with this diarchy system? It is impossible. Minister after Minister, moderates and even Justice party Ministers have all pronounced that diarchy is a failure and nothing short of Provincial autonomy can be successful in the provinces. Therefore, to ask for Provincial autonomy at this stage is not too much. It is a demand of the whole nation, and the Government ought to concede it at once. Naturally, they won't."

* Mr. S. ARPUDASWAMI UDAYAR :—"Mr. President, Sir, I sympathize with the sentiments given expression to by my friend the Member for the University. There is nobody in this House who can say 'no' to his request that this province should get Provincial autonomy, that we must have swaraj. And if I am standing in this House and giving frank expression to my political aims and aspirations, if I say that I can work very well with my brethren and that I am fit for swaraj, I think that is largely owing to the fact that we have this very bureaucracy in this country. That is the only point where I differ from my friend, the Member for the University. It is a very good thing that in the designs of Providence the governance of India was placed under the British and not under any other European power; because we owe it to this circumstance that we have seen introduced into this country liberal arts, liberal administration, British laws and a sense of fairplay and justice. I think it is the greatest glory of the Englishman that he has gradually and slowly raised socially, politically and intellectually this great nation, not in the sense that he had imported a civilization where there was no civilization existing, but that we owe it to him that he has introduced the system of administration which does not curb freedom of expression or liberty of speech, that he has encouraged studies and institutions for fostering desire for liberty, for making us really fit for responsibility and also for implanting in the people of our Presidency and of this country all those liberal aspirations and tendencies in consequence of which we press for more and more of reforms.

"Secondly, Sir, it is not the way with the bureaucracy, at any rate, with the Members on the Treasury benches, to stand in the way of Provincial autonomy or stand in the way of a further and more substantial instalment of Reforms being conceded to us. They have loyally to work the constitution as they find it, as it is put into their hands. My friend has read very many extracts, from the reports sent by ex-Ministers and others, all of which go to show that all parties are agreed in this respect, namely, that the country is ready for a transfer of more subjects to the Ministers"

* Mr. S. SATYAMURTI :—"All subjects?"

* Mr. S. ARPUDASWAMI UDAYAR :—"Almost all."

* Mr. S. SATYAMURTI :—"Not almost, but all subjects."

* Mr. S. ARPUDASWAMI UDAYAR :—"Very good, all the subjects. And that will be the time to do away with this experiment that we find here, viz., diarchy. But, who has the final voice in this matter? (Voices: We). Certainly the hon. Members of this House; but the Members of the Treasury benches

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have also a clear voice in this respect, in that they will have to send a report or give evidence before the Parliamentary Commission which is very shortly to visit this country. Meanwhile, it is our duty to work these Reforms, and I think that on the whole this experiment has been successfully tried, and the fact that it has been a success—at least my friend must admit that it has been a success in this province—is due largely to the breadth of view and the sound judgment which the much-maligned bureaucracy have brought to bear upon this work, and, I am sure that, if to-morrow they are told that a fresh and a more substantial instalment of reforms is to be conceded, they will have loyally to work those reforms as well and as satisfactorily as they have worked the first instalment of the reforms. We are told that this experiment of diarchy is in course of time to disappear and that full Provincial autonomy is to be granted. I think it is only in the nature of the Britisher to loyally bow to the decision of the Parliament when the time comes and work successfully whatever forms of Parliamentary Government are established in this country.

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“Therefore, Sir, while I am fully in sympathy with the aims and aspirations, of which my hon. Friend the Member for the University has given expression so boldly and so courageously, I take objection to what he considers to be certain serious faults of the bureaucracy, whereas the truth is that, in reality, they are loyally working the reforms. While I fully support this motion, I wish at the same time to express solemnly the great debt which this province and which this country owes to those British statesmen who have thought it fit to make us gradually fit for self-government.”

* Sriman BISWANATH DAS Mahasayo :—“Mr. President, I heartily join the chorus of support that this motion has received from various Members of this House. Sir, to me, the motion seems to be very simple, simple in the sense that it seeks to have further constitutional advance. The famous declaration of August 1917 seeks to devolve responsibility on the Indians. Sir, when the Muddiman Committee was appointed, it was distinctly given to understand that the capacity of the various provinces will be put to test and such of the provinces that really do deserve and have shown their capacity will be given a further instalment of advance in the management of their own affairs. Much has been said in the report about provincial autonomy and the Committee devotes a lot of space and energy to find out what provincial autonomy is. To me again it seems very simple. To grant provincial autonomy, according to us, is to make the hon. Members of the Treasury Bench responsible to the members of this House and retain office only so long as they possess our confidence. Sir, the other day while requesting the hon. the Leader of the House, to state the reasons why the recommendations of the committee for the separation of the Judiciary from the Executive were not given effect to, he communicated to us the blessed information that the Government of India are standing on the way and that we have to be guided by them. When we requested the hon. the Revenue Member to state why the recommendations of the Joint Committee were not given effect to, the same information, the same bogey of Government of India was raised. These are the difficulties in the way of our progress. So, we, on our part, have exhibited to the Government and to the world at large that we are not wanting in any of the qualities that are the necessary requisites of a legislature. We are not speaking for ourselves. It has been admitted by

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members on whom, fortunately or unfortunately, the power of granting further constitutional reforms is vested. That being the case, I find that there is no reason to withhold the just rights of the people of this Presidency for further constitutional advance and govern them with vetoes and certificates. In the minutes submitted by the ex-Ministers and in the evidence given by the ex-Ministers and the luminaries of the province, both officials and non-officials, as also the remarks left by the Muddiman Committee, I think there is ample justification for us to get further constitutional advance. The Government of India Act provides for the transfer of subjects. It is impossible for us to get on by having the Public Works Department with the Ministers, and Irrigation with the Executive Councillors who are not at all responsible to the Members of this House. If the Member in charge of Irrigation were responsible to the Members of this House, I assure you that the condition of the people in this province would have been far better. It has been said in certain quarters that we are wanting in education and that that is the ground for withholding further constitutional progress from us. I assure you that so long as we are having a Finance Member all powerful under the Devolution Rules and the Minister to look to him for money, the progress of elementary education will be where it was."

* Mr. T. M. NARAYANASWAMI PILLAI :—" Mr. President, Sir, if there is one question on which all Indians are united, it is this question of further constitutional reforms. Sir, some of us believe that England and India have been brought together for mutual benefit. In the announcement of 1917, to which reference was made, it was stated that India would gradually be given self-governing institutions and that there would be increasing association of Indians in services. Now, with regard to the first portion, whether that policy has been carried out is a question to be considered. We are given only a sample of self-governing institutions without real self-government. We are given responsible institutions without real responsibility. This motion is for the grant of responsibility, for investing these responsible institutions with real responsibility. It is very modest. It confines in particular to the grant of provincial autonomy. The province as a whole has to secure greater relief and greater independence as against the Imperial Government; and the Provincial executive—the whole of the executive—has to be invested with entire responsibility. That this is the goal is accepted by all; and if this were done, we would not be now placed in this unseemly position here. A party which has been returned in as large a number as 42 and 45 is functioning as opposition without taking real responsibility. I doubt whether the Swarajist Members would under provincial autonomy occupy the same anomalous position which they now do. I therefore point to this situation in our Council as one of the reasons why provincial autonomy ought to be given. I believe Swarajists would accept office if provincial autonomy were given. Now, let Englishmen rest assured that it would never be misused. There is no danger whatever in granting autonomy; they would not be driven away bag and baggage. I think that our country is going to show to the world a better example of fusion, fusion of various races, religions and communities. Viewing it in this light, I believe the grant of provincial autonomy is for the mutual benefit of both England and India. Anyone who has read English history will remember that freedom broadened down from precedent to precedent. We want the same things here. We are not asking for revolutionary remedies; we are also for slowly moving from precedent to precedent.

[Mr. T. M. Narayanaswami Pillai]

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The reforms of 1920 gave responsibility to a certain extent. We now want it to be extended further. We want further responsibility complete provincial autonomy. I can conceive of no more modest motion than this and I therefore fully endorse all the opinions that have been expressed before and I add my quota to the demand contained in this motion."

* **MR. C. R. PARTHASARATHI AYYANGAR** :—" Mr. Satyamurti quoted an expression which is still ringing in our ears at the time when England wanted India's assistance. The cry thus went round that England could not bear the intolerable burden of a foreign yoke and they wanted the co-operation of India. Now, very few people, especially Europeans in power realize the intensity of the feeling that Indians are fit for self-government. If there is a feeling of helplessness on our part in realizing this ideal let our friends also remember that there is also a feeling of indignation. We are painfully reminded that we are a subject nation. Go to the villages and see the famine stricken condition of the people. They cannot resist an attack of influenza. We are again and again reminded of our past. We had in those days free education. How from a nation of warlike soldiers we have now according to the words of Raja Rampal Singh degenerated into a 'flock of quill driving sheep'! We feel ourselves emasculated now. Even the arms that were given to us are now taken away by the whims and pleasures of sub-inspectors. We hear complaints every day that muzzle-loaders and revolvers and other such things have been taken away at their caprice. The people of India from being one of the most educated in the world, are now reduced to illiteracy. And that is regarded as the reason for holding us under subjection. Again, we have noticed that the western conception of Government are being sent down our throat in the name of self-government which is alleged to be the one that is best suited for us. Our traditions are entirely ours and they have to be developed. We want our village self-government. When we go into the villages, we are asked by the villagers 'you are going to the Legislative Council; what are you going to do for us; are you going to increase the roads and lessen our taxes?' In my own district though we pay road cess at the rate of nine pies in the rupee, not a pie is spent on the roads in some of our divisions. The villagers ask, what about the taxation that weigh heavily over us? We have no satisfactory answers to give. If the people are to feel happy under the Government, the village must be revived as the unit of the administration. With these words, I support the motion before the House."

The Council then adjourned to meet again at 11 a.m. the next day.

R. V. KRISHNA AYYAR,
Secretary to the Legislative Council.

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APPENDIX I.

[Vide answer to question No. 378 asked by Mr. G. Harisarvottama Rao at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on the 18th March 1927, page 346 supra.]

Name of forest.	Area of reserved forest in acres.	Hillside bare of all growth of either trees or underwood.	Hillside bare of all growth except underwood.	Open land bare of all growth either trees or underwood.	Open land bare of all growth except underwood.	Year of reservation.			
1. Nallamalais ..	1,283,738	Nil.	Scattered patches occur here and there in Yerramalais and Giddalore blocks and Yedavada, but no figures can be given. Roughly about 2,000 acres in Kurnool East forest division (area comprising part of items 1, 5 and 6).	None except a few hundred acres round recognized pentas which are used for penning local and foreign cattle, in Kurnool East.	Practically nil except a 1,000 acres or so in Kurnool East forest division.	1891-1904			
2. Yerramalais ..	241,308					1898			
3. Veligondas ..	65,080					1890			
Other areas under control of Forest department.									
4. Giddalore blocks and Yedavada.	11,858					1901 and 1903			
5. Ambavaram ..	10,697					1897			
6. Somidevipalli ..	9,275					1897			
Under Panchayat.									
7. Ganapavaram ..	11,985					1897			
8. Yerragondapallem.	9,055					1897			

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APPENDIX II.

[Vide item II " Communications to the Council " at page 358 supra.]

PROCEEDINGS OF THE NINTH MEETING OF THE FINANCE COMMITTEE FOR 1926-27 HELD ON THURSDAY THE 3RD MARCH 1927, AT 5 P.M. AT THE CABINET CHAMBER, FORT ST. GEORGE.

P R E S E N T :

The Hon. Mr. T. E. MOIR, C.S.I., C.I.E., I.C.S. (Chairman).

Sir ALEXANDER MACDOUGALL, M.L.C.

M.R.Ry. P. C. VENKATAPATI RAJU Garu, M.L.C.

„ K. R. VENKATARAMA AYYAR Avargal, M.L.C.

„ DANIEL THOMAS Avargal, M.L.C.

„ K. KOTI REDDI Garu, M.L.C.

Khan Bahadur S. K. ABDUL RAZACK SAHIB, M.L.C.

K. P. V. S. MUHAMMADI MEERA ROWTHER Bahadur, M.L.C.

G. T. BOAG, Esq., I.C.S., M.L.C.

C. B. Cotterell, Esq., I.C.S., was also present.

PROGRESS REPORT ON THE CAUVERY-METUR PROJECT FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR 1925-26.

Copies of the report were circulated to the Members of the Finance Committee on the 10th February 1927 and were also placed on the table for the information of the Members of the Legislative Council on the 1st March 1927.

I.—SCHEMES FOR INTRODUCTION IN THE CURRENT YEAR.

(1) Revision of pay of Captain T. W. Barnard, Radiologist, X-Ray Institute, Madras.

Abstract of the proposal.—Captain T. W. Barnard, Radiologist in the X-Ray Institute, Madras, was first appointed to the post in 1920 under a short-term contract for two years on a pay of Rs. 900 per mensem. He was confirmed as Radiologist on the 24th May 1922 on a scale of pay of Rs. 1,000—50—1,500. In October 1925, the Surgeon-General recommended the grant to him of a special pay (risk allowance) of Rs. 200 per mensem on the ground that there was a considerable increase of work since 1920; but the proposal was not accepted by Government as his pay had been fixed with reference to the amount of risk involved. In view, however, of the enormous increase in the number of patients who receive treatment in the institute, the

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Government consider that a scale of Rs. 1,300—50—1,800 which provides for an immediate increase of Captain Barnard's emoluments by Rs. 100 per mensem and which covers a period of ten years is suitable.

Extra cost

(according to Committee's recommendation).

	Cost in 1927-28.	Ultimate cost.
	RS.	RS.
Recurring	2,400	2,400

Recommendation of the Committee.—The Committee recommended the grant to Captain T. W. Barnard of a special allowance of Rs. 200 per mensem.

(2) Employment of an Electrical Supervisor for the control and maintenance of the electric installation in the King George's Hospital and Medical College, Vizagapatam.

Abstract of the proposal.—The electrical installation in the King George's Hospital and Medical College, Vizagapatam, costing about Rs. 1 lakh is now under the control of the Executive Engineer, Vizagapatam division, with one driver, two wiremen and two cleaners in immediate charge. The installation is inspected annually by the Electrical Inspector to Government and any defects noticed by him are attended to by an Electrical Supervisor sent from Madras by the Electrical Engineer. This arrangement is found to be unsatisfactory and the staff inadequate. It is proposed to appoint an Electrical Supervisor on Rs. 80 per mensem temporarily in the first instance and to place him in immediate charge of the installation and to transfer the control of the installation from the Executive Engineer, Vizagapatam division, to the Electrical Engineer to Government. This will obviate the necessity for sending an electrical supervisor from Madras for every petty minor work required in the installation. The expenditure in 1927-28 will be met from the budget allotment under "41. Civil Works—Establishment".

Extra cost.

	Cost in 1927-28.	Ultimate cost.
	RS.	RS.
Non-recurring	960	960

Recommendation of the Committee.—The proposal was recommended for acceptance.

(3) Purchase of fire-extinguishing apparatus.

Abstract of the proposal.—Insurance of Government buildings is not effected except in the case of particularly valuable property liable to special risks. But in the case of commercial concerns, the practice has been to insure the buildings in accordance with commercial practice. The Government Industrial Institute, Madura, and the workshop attached to it were commercialized from the 1st April 1926. It is found that insurance of the buildings

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would cost Rs. 2,500 per annum. The expenditure is out of all proportion to the volume of work undertaken which is less than Rs. 40,000 per annum and to the actual risk involved. The buildings are permanent buildings with high roofs, and highly inflammable stores are well arranged. It is therefore considered that it would meet the needs of the case if fire extinguishers were provided at a cost of Rs. 2,000. The apparatus will be purchased in the current year and the cost met by reappropriation.

Extra cost.

	Cost in 1926-27.
	RS.
Non-recurring	2,000

Recommendation of the Committee.—The proposal was recommended for acceptance.

(4) Boarding grants to Indian Orphanages.

Abstract of the proposal.—The annual appropriation for boarding grants has been Rs. 30,000 since 1924-25. While the appropriation has remained stationary, the number of destitute children has increased from 2,798 in 1924-25 to 4,930 in 1926-27 and in consequence the grant per head has been reduced from Rs. 9-13-3 in 1924-25 to Rs. 6-1-4 in 1926-27. The large increase in the number of destitute children is due to the admission of non-orphan destitutes to participate in the grant from 1925-26 and to the increase in the number of orphanages applying for aid. It is accordingly proposed to increase the provision to Rs. 43,700 from the current year. The cost in the current year will be met by reappropriation. Provision has been made in the budget estimate for 1927-28.

Extra cost.

	Cost in 1926-27.	Ultimate cost.
	RS.	RS.
Recurring	13,700	13,700

Recommendation of the Committee.—The proposal was recommended for acceptance.

II TO BE MET BY SUPPLEMENTARY DEMANDS.**(1) Additional appropriation for expenditure in England other than on stores.**

Abstract of the proposal.—The amount voted by the Legislative Council under "Grant XXXV—Expenditure in England other than on stores" for the current year is Rs. 3,70,300, made up of Rs. 2,77,600 for Expenditure in England other than on stores and Rs. 92,700 for Loss by Exchange. Since the budget estimates for the current year were framed, certain modifications have

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taken place in the leave programme of officers and in other items of expenditure, while the provision made for general pensions and for allowances to Indian Civil Service probationers has proved to be an under-estimate. According to the latest revised estimates for the current year an appropriation of Rs. 85,900 made up of Rs. 63,700 for expenditure in England other than on stores and of Rs. 22,200 for Loss by Exchange is required in excess of the grant under "XXXV—Expenditure in England other than on stores". A demand for a supplementary grant of this amount will be moved at the next meeting of the Legislative Council.

Recommendation of the Committee.—*The Committee recommended that a demand for a supplementary grant of Rs. 85,900 be moved in the current year.*

(2) Widening and deepening the Periyar water-shed cutting, Madura Division.

Abstract of the proposal.—The irrigable area commanded by the Periyar system is 142,749 acres while the supply is sufficient to irrigate 150,000 acres only. To improve the supply so as to serve the remaining area it is proposed to lower the water-shed cutting. Estimates for the purpose amounting to Rs. 2.51 lakhs have been submitted by the Chief Engineer, including Rs. 85,800 for widening and deepening the water-shed cutting. The Chief Engineer has reported that the lake levels have fallen very low and that this is the fittest opportunity to undertake the work. It is therefore proposed to sanction the estimate of Rs. 85,800 for this work separately and to move a demand for a supplementary grant of Rs. 1,000 in the current year. The balance of the estimate which works out to Rs. 84,800 will be provided by the moving of a demand for a further grant on the 28th March 1927.

Recommendation of the Committee.—*The Committee recommended that demands for a supplementary grant of Rs. 1,000 in the current year and a further grant of Rs. 84,800 for 1927–28 be moved in the Legislative Council.*

(3) Improvements to the Nerur channel in the Karur taluk, Trichinopoly district.

Abstract of the proposal.—With a view to utilize the surplus balance of Rs. 12,000 in the Irrigation Cess Fund of the Nerur channel in Karur taluk, an estimate for Rs. 19,150 was sanctioned in April 1920 for the improvement of the channel. The estimate was subsequently raised to Rs. 23,758 in September 1920 and now stands at Rs. 26,245. The Irrigation Cess Fund can meet only Rs. 12,545 out of this sum. The work has almost been completed. All the items provided for in the estimate are masonry works requiring the technical skill of the Public Works Department and can hardly be regarded as kudimaramath works which the ryots are bound to carry out. It is accordingly proposed to treat the work as a Government work chargeable to Provincial funds with a contribution of Rs. 12,545 from the Irrigation Cess Fund. A sum of Rs. 7,000 is required in the current year to meet the expenditure already incurred. A demand for a supplementary grant for this amount will be moved at the next meeting of the Legislative Council. It can be met from savings within the Irrigation grant.

Recommendation of the Committee.—*The Committee recommended that a demand for a supplementary grant of Rs. 7,000 be moved in the current year.*

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**(4) Additional appropriation under VIII Forest—Refunds—
Refunds by Revenue Officers.**

Abstract of the proposal.—The provision made in the current year's budget estimates under VIII—Forest—Refunds which includes both refunds by Forest and Revenue officers is Rs. 34,000. The Board of Revenue has distributed Rs. 32,500 to Forest officers and the balance of Rs. 1,500 to Revenue officers. The actual expenditure by Revenue officers in the first seven months of the current year is Rs. 6,321 and the probable requirements for the whole year are estimated at Rs. 13,000, an increase of Rs. 11,500 over the budget appropriation. It is not possible to meet this excess by reappropriation within the Forest grant. Savings to meet this demand are however available under "5 a. Land Revenue". It is proposed to move a demand for a supplementary grant of Rs. 11,500 under Grant IV—Forest—Reserved—at the next meeting of the Legislative Council.

Recommendation of the Committee.—The Committee recommended that a demand for a supplementary grant for Rs. 11,500 be moved in the current year.

**(5) Constructing a bed regulator across the Cauvery at Kattalai
in the Trichinopoly district.**

Abstract of the proposal.—The bed level of the Cauvery channels in the Trichinopoly district is generally higher than that of the riverbed close to them. To divert water into the channels temporary dams were tried but to no purpose. Recently, a main canal on the right bank was constructed at a cost of 10 lakhs, but during the last irrigation season it was found that the new canal could not function properly without a bed regulator which is estimated to cost 15 lakhs. The present low level of the river is favourable for construction. It is accordingly proposed to start the construction of a scouring sluice for the proposed regulator in the current year and to incur an expenditure of Rs. 1,000 on that account. For 1927-28 a provision of one lakh has been included in the budget estimates under "55. Irrigation". A demand for a supplementary grant of Rs. 1,000 will be moved in the Legislative Council for the expenditure anticipated in the current year.

Recommendation of the Committee.—The proposal to move a demand for a supplementary grant of Rs. 1,000 was recommended by the Committee.

**II.—SCHEMES FOR INTRODUCTION IN 1927-28 BY
REAPPROPRIATION.**

**(1) Employment of a permanent lock superintendent for
the charge of the locks and regulators across the
Bundar and Ellore canals.**

Abstract of the proposal.—The construction of locks and regulators across the Bundar and Ellore canals estimated at Rs. 3,11,000 is expected to be completed by the end of June 1927. The Chief Engineer reports that a lock superintendent on Rs. 20—1—35 is required permanently for the charge of

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these locks and regulators after completion. The extra cost in 1927-28 will be met by reappropriation within the allotment for 41. Civil Works—Establishment.

Extra cost.

	Cost in 1927-28.	Ultimate cost.
	RS.	RS.
Recurring	160	330

Recommendation of the Committee.—The proposal was recommended for acceptance.

(2) Re-organization of the City Civil Court Establishment.

Abstract of the proposal.—The City Civil Court was started in 1892 and the only additions to the staff since that year are one process-server in 1908, and one shorthand writer and one clerk in 1910. There has been a large increase of work in recent years and arrears have accumulated as the existing staff is unable to cope with the increase. In 1914 the number of institutions were 405 suits, 469 execution petitions and 1,554 miscellaneous petitions. The corresponding figures for 1925 are 762, 808 and 2,289. It is considered that it would meet the needs of the case if the staff is strengthened by the permanent addition of—

- 1 Indian Bailiff on Rs. 23—1—35,
- 1 Reader on Rs. 30—1—35, and
- 1 Attender on Rs. 23—35,

and the appointment of a temporary clerk on Rs. 40 for six months. The cost in 1927-28 will be met by reappropriation from the budget grant under "24. Administration of Justice".

Extra cost.

	Cost in 1927-28.	Ultimate cost.
	RS.	RS.
Recurring	1,076	1,132

Recommendation of the Committee.—The proposal was recommended for acceptance.

III.—FURTHER DEMANDS FOR 1927-28.

(1) Advances to ryots for purchase of seed.

Abstract of the proposal.—As a result of the failure of the north-east monsoon this year in the Bellary and Anantapur districts there is expected to be a lack of good seed at the sowing time next season. The Agricultural department has to take steps to stock seed against this dearth and to provide measures for distributing it to needy ryots. As in past years it is proposed to distribute seed on six months' credit, the money being recoverable from the ryots. There has been a lack of seed in the Government farms as well. It is accordingly proposed to purchase as much as possible of the improved strains

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of cotton and jonna seed and build up a stock. For this purpose advances will be made to the ryots. The expenditure is estimated at Rs. 35,000 of which the Director of Agriculture will be able to find Rs. 4,500 by reappropriation in the current year. The balance of Rs. 30,500 will be provided by moving a demand for a further grant for 1927-28 on the 28th March 1927.

Extra cost.

	Cost in 1926-27.	Cost in 1927-28.	Ultimate cost.
	RS.	RS.	RS.
Non-recurring	4,500	30,500	35,000

Recommendation of the Committee.—The proposal to move a demand for a further grant of Rs. 30,500 for 1927-28 was recommended by the Committee.

(2) Reconstruction of the bridge at mile 26/5 of the Calicut-Mysore frontier road.

Abstract of the proposal.—The existing bridge at mile 26/5 of the Calicut-Mysore frontier road is reported to be in a dangerous condition. The Chief Engineer who inspected it considers that it is inadvisable to attempt any repairs to render it safe and that it would be cheaper in the long run to reconstruct it. It is accordingly proposed to reconstruct the superstructure on the old piers and abutments. As the preliminary plans and estimates could not be prepared in time for the inclusion of the scheme in the next year's budget, it is now proposed to move a demand for a further grant of Rs. 25,000 for 1927-28 on the 28th March 1927.

Recommendation of the Committee.—The proposal to move a demand for a further grant of Rs. 25,000 was recommended by the Committee.

IV.—OTHER SCHEMES.

(1) Report on the Excise Policy by the Excise Advisory Committee with special reference to the possibility of securing other sources of revenue to make up for the loss of Excise Revenue.

The Committee desired to see the papers relating to the rationing system adopted in Bombay and any references in the Taxation Enquiry Committee's report on the subject of total prohibition. They also wished to know—

(i) the cost of the preventive staff that will be necessary if total prohibition is adopted, and

(ii) whether any additional staff has been appointed in taluks where experiments are being made.

(2) Temporary staff in the Local Self-Government Secretariat for the compilation of accounts of local bodies.

Abstract of the proposal.—In connexion with the preparation of the general reviews on the working of District Municipalities and Local Boards in this Presidency, certain statements of the accounts of local bodies have to be

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compiled every year. The statements cover over 250 pages of printed matter. Until 1924 they were being prepared by the staff of the Examiner of Local Fund Accounts. With the transfer of the responsibility for maintaining the accounts of local boards to their Presidents, the Examiner's department became a purely Audit department and the work of compiling the statements was transferred to the Local Self-Government Secretariat from the year 1924-25. Since then a temporary staff is being entertained every year. It is now proposed to accord standing sanction for the employment of the following staff for three months every year :—

One Superintendent on Rs. 200—20—400.

Nine clerks on Rs. 40.

One attender on Rs. 23.

Extra cost.

	Cost in 1926-27. RS.	Ultimate cost. RS.
Recurring	1,750	2,150

Recommendation of the Committee.—The proposal was recommended for acceptance.

(3) Reorganization of the staff of the Penitentiary to deal with the distribution of quinine.

Abstract of the proposal.—Since 1922 the work of distributing quinine in bulk and making and distributing pice packets is being done at the Penitentiary. The question of the staff necessary to deal with this work was referred to a Committee in May 1924. The Committee's recommendations were slightly modified by the Government and the following scales of pay have been adopted :—

Existing staff in the Penitentiary.

Staff to be appointed.

Pice Packets Branch.

One clerk on Rs. 65—85	One clerk on Rs. 65—85.
One clerk on Rs. 40	One clerk on Rs. 40—65.

Bulk Sales Branch.

One Deputy Jailer on Rs. 75—5—150 with a Presidency allowance of Rs. 25.	One Deputy Jailer on Rs. 100—5—175.
Three clerks on Rs. 40	One Accountant on Rs. 40— 65.
	One store clerk on Rs. 65—85.
	One clerk on Rs. 40—65.

The staff will not be provided with free quarters or house-rent. The revised scales of pay will come into effect from the 1st April 1927. Proposals for the permanent retention of the staff will be considered in connexion with the budget estimate for 1928-29.

Extra cost.

	Cost in 1927-28. RS.	Ultimate cost. RS.
Recurring	300	930

Recommendation of the Committee.—The proposal was recommended for acceptance.

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V.—PAPERS PLACED ON THE TABLE.**(a) Important Reappropriations.****(1) GRANT XV. POLICE—26-k. POLICE—WORKS—(ii) DISTRICT
EXECUTIVE FORCE—WORKS—NEW WORKS.**

					RS.
Original appropriation	..	..	..	..	6,000
Additional appropriation	..	..	..	..	6,000
Modified appropriation	..	..	..	..	12,000

In September 1925, orders were issued to the effect that the construction of petty buildings and the execution of ordinary repairs to all civil buildings up to a limit of Rs. 5,000 should ordinarily be undertaken by the departments using or requiring them, out of the funds placed at their disposal in the civil budget. The Inspector-General of Police has reported that provision for them could not be included in the budget in time, and that an additional sum of Rs. 6,000 is necessary. The amount will be met from the existing provision under "Pay of Establishments—Police Force—General—Permanent" under the minor head "District Executive Force".

(2) GRANT XIX. EDUCATION—TRANSFERRED.**47. f. Miscellaneous—Special Commissions of enquiry—**

					RS.
Original appropriation	..	..	..	..	Nil.
Additional appropriation	..	..	..	..	5,000
Modified appropriation	..	..	..	..	5,000

The additional appropriation is required to meet the travelling and other incidental expenses connected with the following committees:—

(1) A committee consisting of the Director of Public Instruction and four non-official gentlemen to enquire into the working of the Widows' Homes in Triplicane and Vizagapatam; and

(2) a committee to consider the question of the establishment of a Tamil university with reference to the suggestion made at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on the 22nd March 1926.

The amount will be met from the appropriation under "31. C. c.—Education—Primary—Grants to Local bodies for Primary Education—Grants-in-aid—Educational—Recurring—Miscellaneous (Sessional schools for backward classes)."

**(3) GRANT XXX. CIVIL WORKS—41. CIVIL WORKS—PROVINCIAL—
TRANSFERRED.**

Certain private lands were acquired during 1924-25 for extensions to the Government Hospital and Medical School at Coimbatore and a sum of Rs. 25,149, being the award passed by the Land Acquisition Officer (Revenue Divisional Officer), Coimbatore, was adjusted during that year towards Land

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Compensation charges. The Additional Sub-Judge, Coimbatore, has now enhanced the award passed by the Land Acquisition Officer and an additional compensation of Rs. 19,800 has to be paid according to the decree of the Court. To meet the above charge an additional grant of Rs. 19,800 has been sanctioned by reappropriation from the grant already voted by the Council for the current year.

(b) Other items.

(1) Employment of additional staff for investigation in regard to the methods of storing ganja.

Abstract of the proposal.—In 1925 the Government sanctioned the employment for a period of two years of a whole-time assistant on Rs. 85 per mensem to assist the Agricultural Chemist at Coimbatore for investigation of the causes of the deterioration of ganja and of the best means of storage to be adopted to prevent deterioration. The results of the investigation so far made indicate that the deterioration of ganja may be prevented or minimised by adequate protection from heat, light and air. The Agricultural Chemist considers that a rational system of storage can be developed only after a thorough study of the active principle of ganja which is a laborious and difficult task involving a complete study of the Bio-chemistry of the ganja plant and that further investigation should be directed with a view to elicit information on various other points in regard to the harvesting of ganja and its subsequent treatment. A staff of one Chemical Assistant on Rs. 100—10—150 and a laboratory attendant on Rs. 201—2—5 have been appointed for conducting the investigation. A sum of Rs. 1,125 will be required for travelling allowances and chemicals and apparatus. The extra cost in the current year was met by reappropriation and the necessary provision is made in the budget estimate for 1927—28.

(2) Training of officers of the Excise Department in distillery work.

Abstract of the proposal.—Prior to the separation of Excise from the Salt Department, officers were placed in charge of distilleries and warehouses after a theoretical training in distillery work for a period of six weeks and their work was subject to frequent and regular scrutiny by a staff of travelling distillery inspectors and by the Abkari Deputy Commissioner who were all highly trained specialists. In the new Excise Department there are no travelling distillery inspectors and the work is attended to by ordinary Excise Inspectors. It was accordingly recommended that four Inspectors, six Assistant Inspectors, ten Sub-Inspectors and one Superintendent and one clerk of the Central Office should be trained in distillery work in 1926—27. The Finance Committee did not classify the scheme but wished to know whether the Excise Department was satisfied that the proposed system was really the most economical and whether the old system of a separate specialist staff for the inspection of distilleries should not be reverted to. The Excise Commissioner has reported that if regard be had to direct and visible expenditure, the old system is more costly, but having regard to the efficiency of supervision and consequent protection of revenue and administrative advantages, the balance is in favour of reversion to the old system.

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(3) Appointment of a Chief Forest Engineer for six months.

Abstract of the proposal.—The contract of Mr. Martin, Chief Forest Engineer, with this Government expired on 14th August 1926. His re-engagement was postponed to February 1927 as he wished to go back to America before re-engagement. Meanwhile, to carry on the duties of the Chief Forest Engineer till Mr. Martin's arrival, a post of Chief Forest Engineer was created for a period of six months from 14th August 1926 or till the date of Mr. Martin's rejoining duty.

(4) Appointment of a Forester for prevention of teak defoliation at Nilambur.

Abstract of the proposal.—The teak plantations in Nilambur are suffering from the attack of defoliators of several species. The Forest Entomologist has recommended that effective measures should be taken to control the pest in its initial stages and that research should be carried on for a period of five years on the following lines :—

- (a) regular patrolling and systematic mapping of the defoliated area ;
- (b) destruction of pupating defoliators by collection of fallen leaves ;
and
- (c) protection and distribution of hostile parasites in areas which cannot be treated as in (b).

The Government have sanctioned the creation of a temporary post of forester for a period of five years to carry out this work. The extra cost involved in 1926-27 will be met by reappropriation.

(5) Appointment of a special officer for the reprint of the Madras Jail Manual.

Abstract of the proposal.—The latest edition of the Madras Jail Manual was printed in 1915. In view of the large number of amendments sanctioned since that year, the revision of the manual was taken up in 1925. The Inspector-General of Prisons suggested that the Manual should contain important circulars issued by him for the guidance of officers of the Jail Department. The Government directed that these instructions should be printed as a separate volume (Part III) of the Jail Manual. For the compilation of this volume a retired Jail Superintendent was employed as Special Officer for a period of 2½ months from November 1925. The examination of the proofs of the reprint of the Jail Manual and the incorporation in the manual of the various amendments and revised forms accepted by Government were entrusted to the same officer in the current year. For this purpose he was re-employed for a period of 1½ months on Rs. 500 per mensem and in addition was granted a bonus of Rs. 500. The extra cost was met by reappropriation.

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(6) Employment of a second munshi in the Police Training School, Vellore.

Abstract of the proposal.—There was only one munshi (Telugu) since December 1925 in the Police Training School at Vellore. In November 1926 the Inspector-General of Police reported that there were eight probationers in the school—six learning Telugu and two Tamil and that there was consequently more work than a single munshi could cope with. The Government accordingly sanctioned the employment of a second munshi for one year on Rs. 60 per mensem. The extra cost in 1926-27 was met by reappropriation.

(7) Employment of temporary police staff for guard and orderly duties in Madura and Ramnad districts.

Abstract of the proposal.—The police staff of one head constable and four constables required for guard duty in the office of the Kallar Special Officer and six constables as orderlies for the Kallar Special Officer and his two assistants employed in connexion with the work of reclamation of Kallars were hitherto found from the armed reserves of the Madura and Ramnad districts. Owing to the reduction of the armed reserves it is impossible to find the staff required for the Kallar reclamation officers from the Madura and Ramnad reserves. An additional staff of one head constable and ten constables was accordingly sanctioned in November 1926 as a temporary measure till the end of February 1927. The extra cost was met by reappropriation.

(8) Retention of the temporary staff for the cataloguing of books and periodicals in the Connemara Public Library.

Abstract of the proposal.—In March 1926 the Government sanctioned the employment of an attendant on Rs. 40 a month and an attender on Rs. 23 a month for a period of six months for cataloguing the serial publications in the library. In July 1926 the Principal Librarian stated that the temporary staff was employed on 1st June 1926 and that it would require eighteen months to complete the work, as no less than 27,000 catalogue cards had to be prepared, fair copied and placed in card cabinets before the preparation of the consolidated catalogue could be taken up. The staff has accordingly been sanctioned for a period of eighteen months from 1st June 1926. The extra expenditure in 1926-27 was met by reappropriation.

(9) Furniture grant for the Government House Elementary school—Madras and Ootacamund.

Abstract of the proposal.—An elementary school is attached to the Government House. It is treated as a special school and receives grants from the Director of Public Instruction. In September last, the Director of Public Instruction recommended the payment to the school of a grant of Rs. 1,210 being the full cost of the articles of furniture required for the school, while ordinarily half grants only are admissible. In view of the special nature of the school, the full grant was sanctioned by the Government and the expenditure was met by reappropriation.

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(10) Building grant for the Birds' Nest Orphanage, Madura.

Abstract of the proposal.—In March 1925, the Government sanctioned a grant of Rs. 5,000 towards the construction of a building in the premises of the Mission Hospital for Women and Children, Madura. It was intended to serve as an orphanage where orphans and abandoned children might be maintained and educated free. It was directed that the amount be paid when funds became available. The work was completed by 1st March 1926. As no provision was made in the budget estimate for 1926–27 for the payment of the grant, the amount was met by reappropriation from the provision made for building grants for non-Government secondary schools.

(11) Grant to the Rev. J. M. Baker towards the cost of publication of booklets for the education of adults.

Abstract of the proposal.—The Rev. J. M. Baker of the American Baptist Mission, Ongole, has proposed a scheme which provides for the organization of centres of study for adults, and the preparation of 23 special booklets dealing with useful subjects, such as village sanitation, principal diseases, franchise and citizenship, etc., for distribution to teachers in charge of the centres. The cost of printing the booklets is estimated at Rs. 2,875. A non-recurring grant of Rs. 1,000 has been sanctioned on condition that the booklets are accepted as suitable for village libraries by a small Committee appointed by the Director of Public Instruction for the purpose. The amount was met by reappropriation.

(12) Opening of a Government Elementary School for Adi-Andhra children at Nowrangapur in the Vizagapatam Agency.

Abstract of the proposal.—There were two elementary schools at Nowrangapur in the Vizagapatam Agency—a Board School and a Mission School. It was reported that the Board school was already over-crowded and that the admission of Adi-Andhra children would drive many of the caste boys from the school and that only Christian boys went to the mission school. It was accordingly decided to start an elementary school at Government cost for Adi-Andhra children with effect from the 15th September 1926. It was sanctioned as a temporary measure up to the 28th February 1927. The extra cost was met by reappropriation.

(13) Oxy-Acetylene welding plant for the Madras Trades School

Abstract of the proposal.—On the 10th January 1927, the Finance Committee recommended the proposal to purchase an Oxy-Acetylene welding plant for the Madras Trades School. They desired to know whether there was a proper instructor in the school. The Principal of the school reports that there are instructors competent to impart instruction in Oxy-Acetylene welding.

(14) Opening of a fish-curing yard on the Agathi Island.

Abstract of the proposal.—The islands of the West Coast abound in a variety of fish. The inhabitants of those islands have not taken to the fish industry on any great scale. It is proposed to open a fish-curing yard on the

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Agathi island in January 1928 with one petty yard officer, in order to assist the islanders to improve their conduct of the fish industry. An Inspector of Fisheries will be deputed to the islands to start the yard. A sum of Rs. 1,000 has been included in the budget estimate for 1927-28 on account of the scheme.

(15) Establishment of a fish-curing and oil guano station on Church island near Tuticorin.

Abstract of the proposal.—The trawler which has been purchased with the sanction of the Legislative Council for the purpose of conducting deep sea fishing experiments in the Presidency will be used in conducting fishing operations on the big trawling bank lying off the Tuticorin port. Owing to the insufficiency of transport facilities the large hauls of fish which are expected cannot pass into the markets to be consumed fresh. A fish-curing yard has accordingly been opened on Church island to cure the fish and to convert inferior varieties into oil guano and fish meal. The cost in 1926-1927 (about Rs. 2,626) was met by reappropriation.

(16) Establishment for the Assistant Director of Fisheries (Marine) and the Trawler "Lady Goschen".

Abstract of the proposal.—With the sanction of the Legislative Council the Government have purchased a trawler and engaged with effect from the 12th March 1926 an Assistant Director for a period of three years on a salary of Rs. 750—50—850 to conduct deep sea fishing experiments. A staff of one Inspector of Fisheries on Rs. 70 and a clerk on Rs. 60 and a peon have been appointed. For the transport season, one Sub-Inspector, two petty yard officers and three peons are required for a period of eight months. Besides, the crew for the trawler consists of one Mate (Rs. 150), one Serang (Rs. 110), three drivers, four firemen, five lascars, an oil-man, a cook and a bhandary. The total cost in 1926-27 including the running expenses of the trawler and incidental expenses are estimated at Rs. 55,992 and has been met by reappropriation.

(17) Appointment of an Assistant Professor of Anatomy in the Medical College, Vizagapatam.

Abstract of the proposal.—Up to the 1st January 1927, the teaching of Anatomy at the Vizagapatam Medical College was in the hands of one Professor. As under the revised medical regulations, instruction in Embryology has been added to the Anatomy course and as the revised course has to be completed in eighteen months instead of two years as hitherto, an Assistant Professor of Anatomy on the rate of pay for Civil Assistant Surgeons, viz., Rs. 200—450, plus a teaching allowance of Rs. 75 per mensem, was sanctioned with effect from the 1st January 1927. The extra cost in 1926-27 was met by reappropriation.

(18) Grant to the Vizagapatam District Board for the construction of a road dam across Chidigummalla Gedda.

Abstract of the proposal.—With the approval of the Finance Committee provision was made in the budget estimate for 1925-26 for a half grant of Rs. 6,000 to the Vizagapatam District Board for the construction of a road

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dam across Chidigummalla Gedda, the grant being payable on the post-payment system. The Board incurred an expenditure of Rs. 1,265 on the work on the 31st March 1926, but could not draw any portion of the grant in that year. In August 1926, it was reported that an expenditure of Rs. 8,682 had been incurred on the work to the end of June 1926. A half grant of Rs. 4,341 was sanctioned and met by reappropriation from the provision made for grants to District Boards for second-class roads.

(19) Grant to the Bellary District Board towards the construction of a Causeway across the Chikkahagari.

Abstract of the proposal.—The construction of a causeway across the Chikkahagari is estimated to cost Rs. 21,100 and as it is on a second-class road a half grant is admissible for it. The probable expenditure in the current year is estimated at Rs. 10,000. As the season in the Ceded districts is unfavourable and the inception of the work at once will afford some relief to the working classes a grant of Rs. 5,000 has been sanctioned in the current year, the amount being met by reappropriation from the provision of Rs. 70,500 for non-recurring contributions to local and municipal funds under “47. j. Miscellaneous—Contributions”. A further grant of Rs. 5,550 payable in 1927–28 will also be met by reappropriation in that year.

(20) Loan to the Tanjore Taluk Board for the construction of culverts and bridges on village roads.

Abstract of the proposal.—The Tanjore Taluk Board has applied for a loan of Rs. 30,000 for the construction of culverts and bridges on village roads. The taluk board is able to repay the loan. The loan will be sanctioned in the current year and met by reappropriation.

(21) Loan of Rs. 22,500 to the Bellary Municipal Council for the construction of a meat and vegetable market.

Abstract of the proposal.—The Bellary Municipal Council proposes to acquire a site with buildings thereon in Brucepettah and to construct a combined meat and vegetable market. The cost of the acquisition is estimated at Rs. 42,512 and the construction of buildings at Rs. 44,500. The Municipal Council is able to find Rs. 20,000 from its funds and has applied for a loan of Rs. 67,000 for the purpose. The sum of Rs. 20,000 has already been paid by the Council and a sum of Rs. 22,500 is required urgently to complete the acquisition. The work is a remunerative one and the Council can finance the loan. A loan of Rs. 22,500 will be sanctioned in the current year and met by reappropriation. A provision of Rs. 44,500 has been made in the budget estimate for 1927–28 for the purpose.

(22) Further advance of Rs. 12,500 to the Board of Commissioners for Hindu Religious Endowments.

Abstract of the proposal.—Advances aggregating Rs. 1,65,000 were made to the Board of Commissioners for Hindu Religious Endowments in 1925–26 to enable the Board to carry on until contributions were received from the

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trustees of temples and mutts. Owing to the fact that a large number of suits has been filed in the High Court and other courts, great difficulty has been felt in obtaining contributions in the current year and a further advance of Rs. 60,000 was sanctioned in 1926-27 with the approval of the Finance Committee and the sanction of the Legislative Council. The amount is found to be insufficient to meet the expenses in the current year and a further advance of Rs. 12,500 has been sanctioned, the amount being met by reappropriation from the provision of Rs. 2 lakhs in the budget estimate for 1926-27 under "Loans to District and other Local Funds Committees—Roads and Bridges—Lump provision for repairs of flood damages".

(23) Grant to the Perambalur Taluk Board for Medical buildings.

Abstract of the proposal.—In May 1926 the Government sanctioned a grant of Rs. 810 to the Perambalur Taluk Board, being half the estimated cost of constructing an operation theatre and incinerator in the Local Fund Dispensary at Perambalur. The Taluk Board reported in June 1926 that the works had been completed during 1925-26 at a cost of Rs. 1,482-15-0 and applied for a half grant of Rs. 741-8-0. The payment of the grant has been sanctioned and met by reappropriation.

(24) Employment of an additional Upper Division Clerk in the Board of Revenue, Land Revenue and Settlement.

G.O. Mis. No. 1561, Revenue, dated 15th September 1926.

The Government are satisfied that the amount of work to be done in the office of the Board of Revenue (Land Revenue and Settlement) in connexion with the inspection of subordinate offices by the Land Revenue Commissioner and the postings, transfers and leave of Deputy Collectors is such that the existing clerical staff of the office should be strengthened. They accordingly sanction the employment in that office temporarily of an Upper Division Clerk in the scale of Rs. 65-4-125 with effect from 1st October 1926 up to 31st March 1927.

2. The extra cost on account of this additional clerk will be met from the appropriation for "Pay of establishments" in the budget estimate for 1926-27 under "22. R. c. b.—General Administration—Board of Revenue—Financial Commissioner and Establishments".

3. The question of the permanent retention of this additional clerk will be considered as a Part II scheme for 1927-28.

(25) Employment of three temporary additional clerks on Rs. 35-60 each per mensem in the Sub-Court, Madura.

G.O. No. 3299, Law (General), dated 21st October 1926.

The Honourable the Judges of the High Court recommend the addition of three clerks on Rs. 35-60 each to the establishment of the Sub-Court, Madura, for so long as that Court is presided over by three Sub-Judges. The Government sanction the proposal subject to the condition that the term

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of the new posts will, for the present, extend up to the 28th June 1927, on which date the existing sanction in respect of the appointment of First Additional Sub-Judge, Madura, expires.

2. The expenditure will be met from the appropriation under "24. e. ii. Administration of Justice—Civil and Sessions Courts—Mufassal Civil and Sessions Courts—Pay of establishments—Voted—Temporary" in the current year's budget.

(26) Appointment of a Second Additional Sub-Judge for six months for the Sub-Court, Coimbatore, and the appointment of the Principal Sub-Judge, Coimbatore, as Assistant Sessions Judge.

G.O. No. 3543, Law (General), dated 16th November 1926.

The Government sanction the appointment of a Second Additional Sub-Judge to the Sub-Court, Coimbatore, for a period of six months. The sanction shall take effect from the date on which M.R.Ry. N. Sundaram Ayyar Avargal joins the Sub-Court.

2. The Government also sanction the addition of three clerks on Rs. 35 each a month and three peons on Rs. 12 each a month to the establishment of the Sub-Court, Coimbatore, so long as the number of officers presiding over the Court remains at three.

3. The cost of the establishment will be met from the appropriation under "24. e. Administration of Justice—Civil and Sessions Courts—ii. Mufassal Civil and Sessions Courts—Pay of establishments—Voted—Temporary—" in the current year's budget grant. The reappropriation statement forwarded by the High Court to meet the extra cost involved is sanctioned.

(27) Appointment of an Additional Sub-Judge for one year to the Sub-Court, Tanjore.

G.O. No. 3688, Law (General), dated 1st December 1926.

The Government sanction the appointment of an Additional Sub-Judge to the Sub-Court, Tanjore, for a period of one year. The sanction will take effect from the date on which the officer posted to the Sub-Court, Tanjore, as Additional Sub-Judge takes charge.

2. The Government sanction the addition of three clerks on Rs. 35 each a month and three peons on Rs. 12 each a month to the establishment of the Sub-Court, Tanjore, so long as the number of officers presiding over the Court remains at two.

3. The expenditure will be met from the appropriation under "24. e. Administration of Justice—Civil and Sessions Courts—ii. Mufassal Civil and Sessions Courts—Pay of officers and establishments—Voted" in the current year's budget grant.

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(28) Appointment of a Sub-Judge at Kurnool for six months.

G.O. No. 3689, Law (General), dated 1st December 1926.

The Government are pleased to sanction the proposal of the Honourable the Judges of the High Court that a temporary Sub-Court may be established at Kurnool for six months. The sanction will take effect from the date on which the officer posted to it takes charge.

2. The Government sanction the following establishment for the Sub-Court for the period specified in paragraph 1 :—

One head clerk on Rs. 125—5—150,

Four clerks on Rs. 35—60 each, and

Four servants on Rs. 12—18 each.

3. The cost will be met from the appropriation under “ 24. e. Administration of Justice—Civil and Sessions Courts—ii. Mufassal Civil and Sessions Courts—Pay of officers and establishments—Voted ” in the current year’s budget.

(29) Appointment of an Additional District Munsif, Kumbakonam, for one year from the 3rd January 1927.

G.O. No. 3884, Law (General), dated 20th December 1926.

The Government sanction the appointment of an Additional District Munsif to the District Munsif’s Court, Kumbakonam, for a period of one year from the 3rd January 1927.

2. The Government direct that the establishment of the District Munsif’s Court, Kumbakonam, be strengthened by the addition of three clerks on Rs. 35 each a month and three peons on Rs. 12 each a month so long as the number of officers presiding over the Court remains at two.

3. The cost will be met from the appropriations under “ 24. e. Administration of Justice—Civil and Sessions Courts—ii. Mufassal—Civil and Sessions Courts—Pay of officers and establishments—Voted ” in the current year’s budget grant.

(30) Appointment of a Special Officer for the revision of Civil Rules of Practice.

G.O. No. 364, Law (General), dated 5th February 1927.

The Government sanction the appointment of a special officer in the High Court on a pay of Rs. 500 a month for work connected with the revision of the Civil Rules of Practice from the 9th February 1927 up to the commencement of the ensuing summer recess of the Court or until the work is finished, whichever is earlier.

They also sanction the retention of the translator sanctioned in G.O. No. 3256, Law (General), dated the 18th October 1926, for a similar period. The translator will draw pay at the rate of Rs. 180 a month with effect from 19th February 1927.

2. The pay fixed for the special officer will be personal to Mr. Satyamurti Ayyar, District Munsif (now Acting Assistant Registrar, High Court).

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8. The extra cost during the current year should be met from the budget grant under "24. a. i. High Court Judges and Registrar—Pay of officers and establishments—Voted" respectively. As for the next year, the expenditure should be met by reappropriation.

(31) Temporary addition of ten men to the strength of the sowars attached to the Headquarter stables and corresponding reduction in the Armed Reserve.

G.O. Mis. No. 599, Judicial, dated 22nd September 1926.

The Government sanction the temporary addition, till 31st March 1927, of ten men to the strength of sowars (pay Rs. 24 to Rs. 32) attached to the Headquarter stables of the Madras City Police. Each of them will be eligible for a uniform allowance of Re. 1 per mensem. The Sowars will be appointed as members of the City Police force under sections 11 and 12 of the City Police Act (III of 1888). The sanctioned strength of the City Police Armed Reserve will be reduced by ten constables (8 *plus* 2 casualty reserve) temporarily till 31st March 1927.

2. The extra cost should be met from the appropriations under "26. a. Police—Presidency Police—ii. City Executive Force—Pay of establishments—Voted" and "Supplies and Services—General—Clothing and equipment".

(32) Grant of scholarships to Lady Medical Graduates for higher medical study in England.

Abstract of the proposal.—At its meeting held on the 7th January 1927 the Finance Committee desired to have a report as to whether the lady medical graduates who had been granted scholarships for higher medical study in England in previous years were now serving the Government. Of the two lady medical graduates who were awarded such scholarships, Dr. (Mrs.) Muthulakshmi Reddi, M.L.C., is not in Government service, as the Surgeon-General reports that there is no suitable post vacant which can be offered to her. The other graduate, Miss A. B. Hardy, who is now in England, is the Assistant Superintendent and Lecturer in Medical Jurisprudence and Hygiene in the Lady Willingdon Medical School.

FORT ST. GEORGE, }
10th March 1927.

T. E. MOIR.

THE MADRAS LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

Saturday, the 19th March 1927.

The House met at 11 o'clock, Mr. President (the hon. Rao Bahadur C. V. S. NARASIMHA RAJU Garu) in the chair.

PRESENT:

Ramaswami Ayyar, K.C.I.E., The hon. Sir C. P.
 Marjoribanks, C.S.I., C.I.E., The hon. Mr. N. E.
 Usman Sahib Bahadur, The hon. Khan Bahadur Muhammad.
 Moir, C.S.I., C.I.E., The hon. Mr. T. E.
 Subbarayan, The hon. Dr. P.
 Ranganatha Mudaliyar, The hon. Mr. A.
 Arogyaswami Mudaliyar, The hon. Diwan Bahadur R. N.
 Abbas Ali Khan Bahadur.
 Abdul Razaq Sahib Bahadur, Khan Bahadur S. K.
 Abul Wahab Sahib Bahadur, Munshi.
 Abdul Hamid Khan Sahib Bahadur.
 Adinarayana Chettiyar, Mr. T.
 Anjaneyulu, Mr. P.
 Appavu Chettiyar, Mr. C. D.
 Ari Gowder, Mr. H. B.
 Arpudaswami Udayar, Mr. S.
 Buzl-ul-lah Sahib Bahadur, C.I.E., C.B.E., Khan Bahadur Muhammad.
 Bhak'avatsulu Nayudu, Mr. P.
 Bheemayya, Mr. J.
 Biswanath Das Mahasayo, Sriman.
 Boag, Mr. G. T.
 Chidambaranatha Mudaliyar, Mr. T. K.
 Congreve, Mr. C. R. T.
 Cotterell, C.I.E., Mr. C. B.
 Dornai Raja, Mr. S. N.
 Ellappa Chettiyar, Rao Sahib S.
 Gangadhara Siva, Mr. M. V.
 Gopala Menon, Mr. C.
 Govindaraja Mudaliyar, Mr. C. S.
 Guruswami, Rao Sahib L. C.
 Hall, C.B.E., Mr. J. F.
 Hampayya, Rai Sahib M.
 Harisarvottama Rao, Mr. G.
 Herison, Mr. H. F. P.
 John, Mr. V. Ch.
 Kaleswara Rao, Mr. A.
 Kameswara Rao Nayudu, Mr. V.
 Karant, Mr. K. R.
 Khadir Mohidin Sahib Bahadur, Muhammad.
 Koti Reddi, Mr. K.
 Krishnan, Mr. K.
 Krishnan Nayar, Diwan Bahadur M.
 Krishnaswami Nayar, Mr. K. V.
 Kumara Raja of Venkatagiri.
 Kumaraswami Reddiyar, Diwan Bahadur S.
 Kuppuswami, Mr. J.

MacDougall, Kt., Sir Alexander.
 Madhavan Nayar, Mr. K.
 Mahmud Schamnad Sahib Bahadur.
 Mallayya, Dr. B. S.
 Manikkavelu Navakar, Mr. M. A.
 Marudavanam Pillai, Mr. C.
 Meera Ravuttar Bahadur, K. P. V. S. Muhammad
 Moidoo Sahib Bahadur, T. M.
 Muniswami Nayudu, Rao Bahadur B.
 Muniswami Pillai, Mr. V. I.
 Muppil Nayar of Kavalappara, Mr.
 Muttayya Mudaliyar, Mr. S.
 Muthulakshmi Reddi, Dr. (Mrs.)
 Muthuranga Mudaliyar, Mr. C. N.
 Nagan Gowda, Mr. R.
 Nanjappa Bahadur, Subadar-Major S. A.
 Narayana Raju, Mr. D.
 Narayana Rao, Mr. M.
 Narayanan Chettiyar, Mr. A. I. Ar.
 Narayanaswami Pillai, Mr. T. M.
 Obi Reddi, Mr. C.
 Pandrang Rao, Mr. V.
 Parasurama Rao Pantulu, Mr. A.
 Parthasarathi Ayyangar, Mr. C. R.
 Patro, Kt., Rao Bahadur Sir A. P.
 Premayya, Mr. G. R.
 Raja of Ramnad.
 Rajan, Mr. P. T.
 Ramachandra Padayachi, Mr. K.
 Ramachandra Reddi, Mr. B.
 Ramanath Goenka, Mr.
 Ramaswami Ayyar, Mr. U.
 Ratnasabapathi Mudaliyar, Rao Bahadur C. S.
 Sahajanandam, Swami A. S.
 Saldanha, Mr. J. A.
 Sami Venkatachalan Chetti, Mr.
 Sarabha Reddi, Mr. K.
 Satyamurti, Mr. S.
 Seturatnam Ayyar, Mr. M. R.
 Shetty, Mr. A. B.
 Sitarama Reddi, Rao Bahadur K.
 Siva Raj, Mr. N.
 Sivasubrahmanya Ayyar, Mr. K. S.
 Slater, C.I.E., Mr. S. H.
 Soundara Pandia Nadar, Mr. W. P. A.
 Srinivasa Ayyangar, Mr. R.
 Srinivasa Ayyangar, Mr. T. C.
 Srinivasan, Rao Sahib R.
 Subrahmanya Moppanar, Mr. S.
 Subrahmanya Pillai, Mr. Chavadi K.
 Sundaramurti Pillai, Rao Sahib P. V. S.
 Swami, Mr. K. V. R.

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PRESENT—cont.

Syed Ibrahim Sabib Bahadur.
 Tajudin Sabib Bahadur, Syed.
 Thomas, Mr. Daniel.
 Tireman, C.I.E., Mr. H.
 Tulasiram, Mr. L. K.
 Uppi Sahib Bahadur, K.
 Venka'apati Raju, Mr. P. C.
 Venkatarama Ayyar, Mr. K. R.
 Venkatarama Sastri, C.I.E., Mr. T. R.

Venkataramana Ayyangar, Mr. C. V.
 Venkatarangam Nayudu, Mr. C.
 Venkataratnam, Mr. B.
 Venkiah, Mr. S.
 Wood, Mr. C. F.
 Zamindar of Gollapalli.
 Zamindar of Mirzapuram.
 Zamindar of Seitlur.

I

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

[Order made by the President of the Madras Legislative Council under Standing Order No. 15.]

1. Starred questions to be put at a meeting of the Council with their answers shall be printed and placed on the Council table an hour before the President takes his seat

The President will call out the name of each interpellator in the order in which the names are printed, specify the serial number of his question and make a sufficient pause to give him or any other member a reasonable opportunity of rising in his place and putting a supplementary question. Supplementary questions must be put immediately after the principal questions to which they relate.

2. If a member responsible for a starred question happens to be absent when it is called, it will be open either to him or to any other member to put supplemental questions thereon after the other starred questions for the day have been answered, provided question-time is not thereby exceeded.

3. Questions, not starred, will not be called in Council, but they will be printed with their answers and placed on the table of the House along with the list of starred questions. Oral supplementary questions will not be allowed in regard to unstarred questions.]

STARRED QUESTIONS

Civil Justice

Alleged memorial from the District Court copyists.

* 393 Q.—Mr. S. MUTTAYYA MUDALIYAR: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(a) what action has been taken on the memorial of the copyists of the district courts presented to the hon. the Chief Justice and the hon. the Law Member on the 9th and 10th February 1925;

(b) whether the income derived from the sale of the copy-stamps is more than the remuneration now paid to the copyists; and

(c) whether it is proposed to raise the remuneration and privileges of copyists?

A.—(a) & (c) The attention of the hon. Member is invited to the answer to question No. 339.

(b) The Copyist department is self-supporting.

Alleged memorial from the Judicial copyists.

* 394 Q.—Mr. M. A. MANIKKAVELU NAYAKAR: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state whether there is any memorial from the copyists of the Judicial Department pending at the hands of the Government?

A.—The attention of the hon. Member is invited to the answer to question No. 339.

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Grievances of the copyists of the Malabar Civil Courts.

* 395 Q.—Mr. K. MADHAVAN NAYAR: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether as promised in an answer to a question put by Mr. K. Prabhakaran Tampan (vide Proceedings of the Legislative Council of Madras, dated 1st September 1921), the Government have taken any steps to take copyists of the Civil Courts of Malabar and other districts into the regular branch of the service giving them fixed pay and pension, and all the privileges of the Civil Service Regulations; and

(b) if not, whether and when the Government propose to take such steps?

A.—(a) & (b) The attention of the hon. Member is invited to the answer given to question No. 339.

The hon. the PRESIDENT:—"I may suggest, I think, that if similar questions are put and answered on the same day and the answer is common, it is better to put all the questions together and then the answer. That is the practice in the House of Commons and also in the Assembly."

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR:—"Yes, Sir, your directions will be communicated to the departments; only, difficulty may arise when the answers are sent on different dates. If they are sent more or less about the same time, the system can be followed."

The hon. the PRESIDENT:—"I shall instruct my office also to adopt the same system."

Motor Vehicles Act

Appointment of Bus Inspectors.

* 396 Q.—Mr. K. R. KARANT: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that the examiners of buses run for public traffic are not full-time examiners and that they have hardly sufficient time to examine the buses thoroughly;

(b) whether it is a fact that the Government have appointed Bus Inspectors for such examination in some of the districts;

(c) if so, what are the reasons for such appointments, and in which of the districts such appointments have been made, and on what salaries; and

(d) whether it is a fact that the Government have appointed a Bus Inspector in Malabar; if so, why, and on what salary?

A.—(a) Except in the districts of Coimbatore, Madura, Ramnad, Malabar and Tinnevely the officers authorized to conduct the half-yearly examination of motor buses are not full-time examiners. The Government have no reason to think that these officers have not got time to examine the motor buses thoroughly.

(b) Yes

(c) & (d) In districts in which the number of buses to be examined is large and the income from fees would justify it the half-yearly inspection of motor buses is entrusted to a single professional .

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officer on a suitable salary. In the following districts motor-bus inspectors have been appointed on the monthly salaries noted against them :—

Coimbatore	...	...	Rs. 260 plus Rs. 25 motor-cycle allowance.
Madura and Ramnad	...	..	350
Tinnevely	...	...	250
Malabar	...	...	200 plus Rs. 25 motor-cycle allowance.

Mr. K. R. KARANT :—“ May I ask the hon. the Law Member what the qualifications are for these inspectors ? ”

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—“ A certain amount of knowledge of mechanical transport and of the machinery of motor buses.”

Mr. K. R. KARANT :—“ May I ask what fee is collected from each of the owners of these buses ? ”

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—“ I think it is about Rs. 5. I cannot definitely say.”

Mr. K. R. KARANT :—“ May I ask the amount of fee collected in the City of Madras for these buses per month on the average ? ”

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—“ I cannot say, but a token cut has been given notice of with reference to it and all the information has been collected on the point. I passed the answer some time back. I have got the answer ready and when that motion is reached, I shall give the full answer.”

Mr. K. R. KARANT :—“ May I ask why, seeing that most of these officers in the mufassal as well as in the City of Madras are paid high salaries there is any need for paying any extra amount for them ? ”

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—“ Because it is not work which ordinarily falls within the scope of their duties they have to be paid extra for it.”

Mr. K. R. KARANT :—“ May I ask why this work is not or cannot be included in their ordinary duties ? ”

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—“ The work is heavy and is wholly of an extraneous character. The examination of the machinery of motor buses and testing them is work not wholly falling within the scope of the ordinary duties of these officers. But as far as possible we seek to economise the disbursements. That is all that I can say.”

The RAJA OF RAMNAD :—“ May I know if this new system of getting these buses examined by professional officers is proving satisfactory and if so, in what respect ? ”

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—“ It has been reported to us that in one or two districts where the system has been tried, for instance in Ramnad, Madura, etc., it has been on the whole successful.”

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Mr. T. ADINARAYANA CHETTIYAR :—“ Is it a fact, Sir, that these officers are not specially trained people and they do not know anything about the mechanism of cars ? ”

The hon. Sir C. F. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—“ If in any instance such a case is pointed out to us, we shall try and rectify the mistake.”

Mr. T. ADINARAYANA CHETTIYAR :—“ Will the hon. the Law Member please tell me what special qualifications they possess and what examination they have passed in mechanical or motor engineering to make them deserve these appointments ? ”

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—“ With your permission, Sir, I crave the indulgence of the House to read the actual terms of the order which will probably satisfy my hon. Friends. In districts in which the number of buses to be examined is large and the income from fees justifies it, the half-yearly inspection should be entrusted to professional officer on a suitable salary. In districts in which the fees collected are not sufficient to warrant the appointment of a professional officer the system of associating a competent engineer with the District Superintendent of Police should be adopted. And we have given a list of the persons approved of in the various districts as having professional competency. It may be, that we have made a mistake in one district or another. If so, and if it is pointed out to us, we shall correct it.”

Mr. P. ANJANEYULU :—“ May I know whether some of these inspectors also happen to be owners of workshops where the buses are repaired ? ”

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—“ I am not aware of it, Sir. I want notice.”

Mr. P. ANJANEYULU :—“ If that is the case, will the Government see that this difficulty or disadvantage is removed ? ”

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—“ If the suggestion is that of giving that right to a particular person who may be himself in competition with other bus-owners, the system may result in difficulty. It is a question to be considered and Government will pay attention to it.”

Mr. P. ANJANEYULU :—“ These owners of workshops may not be bus-owners themselves. But the repairing of these buses rests with them.”

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—“ That is what has been referred to by the hon. the Law Member.”

Mr. ABDUL HAMID KHAN :—“ From what the hon. the Law Member said, is it not necessary that we should appoint really professional men to examine these buses instead of depending upon police officers to do the work ? ”

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—“ As I said, in districts in which the number of buses would justify it, we have laid down that the half-yearly inspection should be entrusted to certain professional officers on a suitable salary and the principle which underlies the question of my hon. Friend is really conceded by the Government.”

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Mr. ABDUL HAMID KHAN:—"In the City of Madras I find that the police officers . . . "

The hon. the **PRESIDENT:**—"The hon. Member is requested to put his supplementary question and not furnish information to the House."

Mr. ABDUL HAMID KHAN:—"Very well, Sir, has the Government found it satisfactory to leave the matter to the police officers instead of appointing professional men in the City of Madras where the number of buses has increased considerably?"

The hon. Sir **C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR:**—"So far, no complaint has reached us. If there is any difficulty, Government will deal with the matter."

Mr. K. R. KARANT:—"Will the Government consider the question of having these posts on lesser salaries considering the nature of the work done?"

The hon. Sir **C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR:**—"With all possible respect, Mr. President, we found that even on a salary of Rs. 250 in Coimbatore and 350 in Madras and Ramnad it is difficult to get the best men. If we lessen the salary, we shall probably get apologies for professional men who will not be able to do the work properly."

Mr. K. R. KARANT:—"Will the hon. Member be pleased to state whether it is the intention of the Government to make profits out of these inspections and if it is not so whether they should not reduce the rates to see that it covers only the cost of inspection?"

The hon. Sir **C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR:**—"That is not the underlying idea of the Government, Sir. Nobody will grudge profit when it arises from any transaction. But it is not the idea of the Government to make profit from inspections, but the question whether the fees levied are excessive will be looked into by Government."

Constitution of Districts, Divisions and Taluks

Subdivision of lands in Kasaragod taluk.

* 397 Q.—**Mr. A. B. SHETTY:** Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether bunds of fields by the side of poramboke, channel or river in Kasaragod taluk have been separated from the survey numbers comprising the fields and included in the poramboke, channel or river;

(b) if so, what guarantee there is that such bunds will not be hereafter treated by revenue subordinates as encroachments on poramboke, channel or river, and site value will not be levied on them; and

(c) why the bund is not treated as a subdivision of the survey field comprising the poramboke, channel or river and included in patta?

A.—(a) to (c) The question is one of the facts in each case. If the bund has been lawfully enjoyed as part of the patta field it should be included in the patta field. On the other hand if it is the bund of the channel and is part of the channel it should be included as part of the poramboke survey number. The Survey Act provides for disputed boundaries being made the subject of enquiry and decision in each case.

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Mr. K. R. KARANT :—“ May I ask, Sir, whether this is not being done in the resurveyed areas as a rule more or less, and whether the Government will be pleased to call for a report in the matter ? ”

The hon. Mr. N. E. MARJORIBANKS :—“ What is being done, Sir ? ”

Mr. K. R. KARANT :—“ The inclusion of patta land in poramboke land. Wherever there is resurvey, portions of patta land are included in poramboke as a matter of general rule in the districts resurveyed. I wish to ask the Government whether they will be pleased to call for a report in the matter and would see that this is stopped ? ”

The hon. Mr. N. E. MARJORIBANKS :—“ If the hon. Member wishes, I will enquire what the practice is. But if nobody objects as provided by the Act, I do not understand what object could be served by calling for the information.”

Land Revenue

The Sivaganga estate.

* 398 Q.—Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR : Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) the revenue demand in the Sivaganga estate in each of the faslis 1328 to 1334 ;

(b) the reasons, if any, for any serious fluctuations ; and

(c) the name of the Estate Collector in each of those faslis ?

A.—(a) & (b) The hon. Member is referred to the Court of Wards Administration reports for the several faslis which have been published.

(c) Fasli 1328 ... H. S. Shield, Esq., I.C.S.

Fasli $\left\{ \begin{array}{l} 1329 \\ 1330 \\ 1331 \end{array} \right\}$ A. McG. K. Tampoe, Esq., I.C.S.

Fasli $\left\{ \begin{array}{l} 1332 \\ 1333 \\ 1334 \end{array} \right\}$ H. A. Watson, Esq., I.C.S.

Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR :—“ May I request the hon. the Revenue Member to give us the figures in view of the fact that it is difficult for us to get the figures and compare them ? ”

The hon. Mr. N. E. MARJORIBANKS :—“ If the hon. Member is very anxious to have them, I shall be pleased to have a statement extracted and given to him.”

Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR :—“ Thank you, Sir. May I know whether he has looked into the figures and seen the enormous difference between the incomes in fasli 1328 and in the other faslis, and whether if he sees any difference he will be pleased to give us the reason for the same ? ”

The hon. Mr. N. E. MARJORIBANKS :—“ As the hon. Member began, Sir, it seemed that he was aware of the figures. But at the end of the question he makes it an hypothesis.”

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Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR :—" Quite so, Sir. I know some of the figures but I do not know whether they are correct. Even if the answer to clause (a) is not now available, I want the answer to clause (b). The figures will show that there is a very serious fluctuation between. . . ."

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" No comment is permissible."

The hon. Mr. N. E. MARJORIBANKS :—" The reasons for any fluctuation, Sir, are also given in the Court of Wards Administration report."

Alleged complaints against the Tahsildar, Nannilam taluk.

* 399 Q.—Mr. S. MUTTAYYA MUDALIYAR : Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that the Tahsildar, Nannilam taluk, with a number of subordinates went from house to house in the Vishnupuram village, Nannilam taluk, Tanjore district, at 4-30 a.m. or 5 a.m. in the morning of the 18th February, woke up the inmates of the houses and threatened them with attachment of property, if kist was not paid that day ;

(b) whether it is a fact that the properties of almost every respectable landholder in the village have been attached ; and

(c) whether the Government have approved of such action ?

A.—The particulars of distrains are not reported to Government and Government have no knowledge of the incidents referred to. The question and answer will be forwarded to the Collector to whom a complaint might well have been addressed by those aggrieved.

Mr. S. MUTTAYYA MUDALIYAR :—" May I ask the hon. the Revenue Member whether subsequent to this answer received on the 1st March 1927 a memorial to this effect has been received by the hon. the Revenue Member ? "

The hon. Mr. N. E. MARJORIBANKS :—" I have no recollection of any memorial, Sir. But with reference to what the hon. Member told me, we have made subsequently a reference to the Collector."

Mr. S. MUTTAYYA MUDALIYAR :—" May I remind the hon. Member that a memorial to that effect has been sent to him, and that a copy has been received by me also ? "

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" The hon. Member may furnish information to the hon. the Revenue Member privately if he wants, but this is not the time for it."

Mr. S. MUTTAYYA MUDALIYAR :—" I am asking him on this information which I am furnishing, whether he will answer my question."

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" I do not think the question is admissible."

Explosives

Licences to fire-arms.

* 400 Q.—Mr. K. V. R. SWAMI : Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(a) the number of fire-arms for which licences are issued in each district ; and

(b) what are the qualifications which entitle a man to get a licence ?

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4.—(a) The hon. Member is referred to statement III appended to the annual returns relating to the Arms and Explosives Acts, which are placed on the Editors' Table.

(b) The hon. Member's attention is invited to paragraph 7 of the resolution of the Government of India, Home Department (Police), No. F. 829-1-22, dated 3rd November 1923, published at pages 1340-1343 of Part I of the *Fort St. George Gazette*, dated 27th November 1923.

Mr. K. V. R. SWAMI :—" May I know who will inspect the applications for the licences, who the officer is that will consider these applications ? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—" I think it is the District Magistrate. "

Mr. K. V. R. SWAMI :—" Is he purely guided by the information of the police officer to whom the applications are referred ? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—" To a certain extent, I suppose. "

Mr. K. V. R. SWAMI :—" Is the hon. Member aware that this is working a hardship ? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—" If any specific instances are brought to my notice, I shall look into it. "

Mr. T. ADINARAYANA CHETTIYAR :—" Is he aware that when applications for licences are made by even rich and respectable people, the police head-constable or the sub-inspector is invariably in the habit of sending for them and making unnecessary or annoying enquiries in the presence of many people ? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—" I am not aware of it, Sir. "

Mr. S. MUTTAYYA MUDALIYAR :—" May I ask the hon. the Home Member whether the party to whom licence is refused is given the opportunity to explain why licence should not be refused ? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—" He has got the right of appeal, Sir. "

Mr. S. MUTTAYYA MUDALIYAR :—" To whom, Sir ? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—" To Government. "

Mr. S. MUTTAYYA MUDALIYAR :—" When an appeal is made to Government does the hon. Member call for an explanation from the lower authorities and the aggrieved parties as to why licences should not be given ? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—" That is generally done. "

Mr. S. MUTTAYYA MUDALIYAR :—" May I ask why before refusing licence, the licensing authority himself cannot ask for such explanation ? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—" It is not possible, Sir. "

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Mr. S. MUTTAYYA MUDALIYAR :—" May I know why it is not possible, Sir ? "

Education

Opening of a Muhammadan Secondary Girls' school in Ceded districts.

* 401 Q.—Mr. K. ABDUL HYE SAHIB : Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Local Self-Government be pleased to state in what stage the proposal for opening a Muhammadan Secondary Girls' school in one of the Ceded districts now stands ?

A.—A petition from the Secretary, Muslim Association, Cuddapah, praying for the opening of a higher elementary school for Muhammadan girls and its ultimate development into a secondary school has been received by the Director of Public Instruction. The proposal is under investigation.

Mr. ABDUL HAMID KHAN :—" May I ask the hon. the Minister for Education to let us know the exact date on which the petition was received ? "

The hon. Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN :—" I cannot give the exact date, as the application was received by the Director of Public Instruction."

Mr. ABDUL HAMID KHAN :—" May I know how long it will take for the Government to respond to the request of the people of that place ? "

The hon. Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN :—" As I have said in the answer to the question, the matter is under investigation by the Director."

Mr. ABDUL HAMID KHAN :—" May I know how much time it will take approximately to come to a settlement on the question ? "

The hon. Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN :—" It is not possible for me to state the approximate time required."

The RAJA OF RAMNAD :—" Is it not a fact that many recommendations from the Director are pending with the Government for over a year ? "

The hon. Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN :—" I want notice."

Working of the Secondary School at Rajahmundry.

* 402 Q.—Mr. K. V. R. SWAMI : Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that the Secondary School maintained by the Municipal Council, Rajahmundry, is working at a loss ; and

(b) whether any portion of this loss is met by the Government ?

A.—(a) Yes.

(b) In the year 1925-26, the expenditure on the school was met as follows :—

	RS.
Fees	12,382
Municipal funds	8,591
Provincial funds	505

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MR. K. V. R. SWAMI :—"Will the hon. the Minister be pleased to say whether any application is made by this Municipal Council for making this school a net cost school?"

The hon. Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN :—"I believe there has been an application to that effect."

MR. K. V. R. SWAMI :—"Has it been granted?"

The hon. Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN :—"It is under consideration."

MR. K. V. R. SWAMI :—"For how many years, Sir?"

The hon. Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN :—"I have been in office only for four months, Sir, and I do not know for how many years it has been under consideration."

MR. K. V. R. SWAMI :—"But do not the records show that the application has been pending for six long years?"

The hon. Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN :—"I am not sure of that."

*Report on the expansion of elementary education in the Presidency
by Mr. T. E. Moir.*

* 403 Q.—RAO BAHADUR SIR A. P. PATRO : Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether there is a report on the expansion of elementary education in the Presidency by the hon. Mr. T. E. Moir, as Special Officer in 1923-24; and

(b) if so, whether the Government will be pleased to lay it on the table of the Legislative Council?

A.—(a) Yes.

(b) No

THE RAJA OF RAMNAD :—"Sir, with reference to clause (b), the question is whether the Government will be pleased to lay the report of Mr. Moir on the expansion of elementary education on the table, and the answer is 'No'. May I know why it should not be made available to the Members of this House?"

The hon. Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN :—"It is a confidential report made only to Members of the Government."

DIWAN BAHADUR M. KRISHNAN NAYAR :—"May I know whether the report has been marked 'confidential' or whether my hon. Friend only considers it confidential?"

The hon. Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN :—"I am not sure that it is marked 'confidential'. I am treating it as confidential."

MR. S. SATYAMURTI :—"May I ask for further elucidation of the matter, whether the report was called for at a meeting of the Cabinet and whether Mr. Moir, a member of that Cabinet, made a report to the Cabinet, or whether it was a report asked for by this House or by the Minister? I want to know how the report was called for from a member of the Cabinet."

The hon. Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN :—"Mr. Moir made the report as Special Officer put in charge of making a report on that subject."

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Mr. S. SATYAMURTI :—“ Is it a fact that he was appointed a Special Officer by this House? By whom was he appointed? Was the report made by him based on information obtained by him as a member of the Cabinet or in any other capacity? ”

The hon. Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN :—“ I cannot answer that question.”

Diwan Bahadur M. KRISHNAN NAYAR .—“ Is there not a general rule, Sir, that public documents, those published by Government which are not specifically marked ‘ confidential ’, should not be treated as confidential? ”

The hon. Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN :—“ There is no rule to that effect.”

Mr. S. SATYAMURTI :—“ May I know whether this report was marked ‘ confidential ’ by Sir A. P. Patro or whether the report was treated as public by him and whether his successor, the present Minister, treats it as confidential? ”

The hon. Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN :—“ It was treated as confidential by Sir A. P. Patro ”

Mr. S. SATYAMURTI :—“ Was it not marked ‘ confidential ’ by him? ”

The hon. Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN .—“ I am not quite sure of that, Sir.”

Mr. S. SATYAMURTI :—“ Will the hon. Minister find it out, Sir? ”

The hon. Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN :—“ I shall give the answer to the hon. Member.”

Mr. S. SATYAMURTI :—“ Will he give the House that information? ”

The hon. Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN :—“ If a question is put, I shall deal with the matter.”

Mr. S. SATYAMURTI :—“ A question is put now, Sir.”

The hon. Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN :—“ I shall take it as notice.”

Mr. L. K. TULASIRAM :—“ May I know, Sir, whether this report which they now say is marked ‘ confidential ’ has not been referred to in the administration report of the Madras Presidency for 1925-26 as an ordinary report? ”

The hon. Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN :—“ I am not aware of it.”

The RAJA OF RAMNAD :—“ May I know, Sir, what aspect of this report is confidential? I find the subject is elementary education and in the very nature of things it cannot be confidential.”

The hon. Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN :—“ There are things which are confidential even in the matter of elementary education.”

Conference of Presidents of District Educational Councils at Ootacamund.

* 404 Q.—Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. PATRO : Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether there was a conference or conferences in 1923-24 at Ootacamund of Presidents of District Educational Councils and others interested in the expansion of elementary education in the Presidency; and

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(b) if so, whether the Government will be pleased to place on the table of the House the resolutions and recommendations of the said conference or conferences?

A.—(a) Yes.

(b) The resolutions passed at the Elementary Education Conference held at Ootacamund on the 26th and 27th May 1923 are laid on the table. ^a

Mr. S. SATYAMURTI :—“ May I know, Sir, if any of these resolutions have been carried out during the term of office of his distinguished predecessor ? ”

The hon. Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN :—“ I believe some of them have been carried out.”

Mr. S. SATYAMURTI :—“ May I know which of them ? ”

The hon. Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN :—“ The resolution regarding the opening of schools for areas populated by 500 and over, have been put to practice, to the best ability of Sir A. P. Patro.”

Mr. S. SATYAMURTI :—“ May I know how many schools have been opened ? ”

The hon. Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN :—“ I cannot say offhand.”

Mr. S. SATYAMURTI :—“ May I know if any other resolution has been carried out ? ”

The hon. Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN :—“ I shall have the matter investigated.”

Survey of elementary education in the province.

* 405 Q.—Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. PATRO : Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Local Self-Government be pleased to state whether there was a survey of elementary education in the province in the year 1925-26 in order to ascertain the conditions of elementary education in every taluk of the districts in the Presidency ?

A.—Yes.

Mr. S. SATYAMURTI :—“ May I ask what was the result of that survey ? ”

The hon. Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN :—“ The result of the survey was that a Bill to amend the Elementary Education Act was prepared but was not introduced into this Council.”

Mr. S. SATYAMURTI :—“ Sir, may I ask my hon. Friend whether the survey ended in a report, whether that report was submitted to the Government, whether on that report Government drafted a Bill to amend the Elementary Education Act and whether at that stage the matter is at present allowed to lie ? ”

The hon. Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN :—“ I believe the hon. Member for the University has correct information on these points.”

Mr. S. SATYAMURTI :—“ Far from it, Mr. President, I have no information. I am simply asking as one not unacquainted with the probable course of public business. May I know whether that is what has happened ? ”

The hon. Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN :—“ That is exactly what has happened.”

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Introduction of free and compulsory elementary education in the urban area.

* 406 Q —Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. PATRO: Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) how many municipalities have resolved to introduce free and compulsory elementary education in the urban area ;

(b) whether the Government will be pleased to give a list of all the municipalities that have resolved to introduce compulsory education and the date of the resolutions of the municipal councils and how many of these have actually introduced the system ; and

(c) how many taluk boards and municipalities levied educational cess for expansion of elementary education in their area ?

A.—(a) & (b) A list containing the particulars required is placed on the table. Nineteen municipal councils have actually introduced the system.

(c) On the 31st March 1926, 95 local boards and 25 municipalities were levying the education tax. Since then, sanction has been accorded to the levy of the tax by eight other local boards and one additional municipal council.

Sriman BISWANATH DAS Mahasayo :—"I want to know how many union boards and local boards have refused to extend compulsory education in their areas ?"

The hon. Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN —"That is a matter on which I want notice."

Mr S. SATYAMURTI :—"Turning to the list, it is stated that Coimbatore, Tanjore and Prodatun have resolved on the 23rd November 1922, 16th December 1922 and 26th October 1923, to introduce compulsion in the matter of elementary education. May I ask whether the hon. Minister's predecessor took any action to see that these municipalities did actually introduce the system ?"

The hon. Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN :—"As a matter of fact, these municipalities who wanted compulsion originally, put in an application for reasons known to them that they cannot at the present state of their finances introduce compulsion."

Mr. S. SATYAMURTI :—"May I know what the Government's order on these applications were ?"

The hon. Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN. —"They are still under consideration by the Inspector of Municipalities."

Mr. S. SATYAMURTI :—"May I know the dates of the applications, compared to the dates on which they resolved to introduce compulsion? I mean the dates of applications for exemption or excuse ?"

The hon. Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN :—"I am not sure. I believe the applications came only about the middle of last year."

Mr. S. SATYAMURTI :—"May I know whether since then nothing has been done ?"

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The hon. Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN :—"The Inspector of Municipalities has been communicated with and this matter is pending with him."

Mr. S. SATYAMURTI :—"May I ask the hon. Minister, Sir, when the Inspector was appointed a member of the Assembly, when he left Madras for Delhi, and why, till he left Madras for Delhi, nothing has been done by his predecessor in office, I mean the ex-Minister who has tabled this question?"

The hon. Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN :—"That is a question which he ought to put the hon. ex-Minister."

Mr. S. SATYAMURTI :—"May I ask the hon. ex-Minister one question, Sir?"

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—"Oh, yes, if it relates to some matter connected with the business of the Council for which he was responsible."

Mr. S. SATYAMURTI :—"Much obliged, Sir. May I ask why the applications for exemption which came some time about the middle of last year were not dealt with by him till he laid down his office?"

Mr. S. MUTTAYYA MUDALIYAR :—"May I ask the hon. the Chief Minister whether when an officer who is doing some duties is deputed to do some special duty, other persons are not put to perform his legitimate duties?"

The hon. Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN :—"As a matter of fact, in this case, the personal assistant to the Inspector attends to them. But important questions relating to elementary education and the like are not being considered by him."

Mr. S. MUTTAYYA MUDALIYAR :—"So, may I ask when important questions come before the Government, because the gentleman in charge of the office is performing other duties, these ought to wait one year or two years till the officer returns?"

The hon. Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN :—"I do not mean that. When we think it necessary we send papers to him."

Mr. S. MUTTAYYA MUDALIYAR :—"May I ask the hon. the Chief Minister whether this is one of the papers thought fit to be sent to him and whether he could not have taken such papers with him in February or January when he went?"

The hon. Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN :—"This paper was submitted long before I assumed office."

Mr. P. ANJANEYULU :—"May I know if there are municipalities and taluk boards who have been levying the education tax for years and have failed to introduce compulsory education and whether they were accorded the privilege of exemption? I am asking this with special reference to Guntur."

The hon. Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN :—"I cannot give the answer offhand."

Mr. S. MUTTAYYA MUDALIYAR :—"Arising out of the answer of the hon. the Minister that this paper has been pending before the Inspector of Municipalities for three months, may I know how long it takes him to get answers from his subordinates?"

The hon. Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN :—"It depends upon the amount of information that is required."

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Mr. S. MUTTAYYA MUDALIYAR :—“ May I know what is the volume of information that is required from the municipalities ? The question is one of exemption and the Inspector of Municipalities has to report. What is the information that is needed ? Does the Chief Minister really think that it will take four months ? ”

The hon. Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN :—“ It is a matter of figures which one has to carefully look into.”

Mr. ABDUL HAMID KHAN .—“ Does the Government allow such of the municipalities as are not able to introduce compulsion to go on without introducing compulsion ? ”

The hon. Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN :—“ I shall have to consider that.”

Co-operative Societies

Appointment of presidents and secretaries of the depressed class tenants' co-operative societies.

* 407 Q.—**Mr. G. R. PREMAYYA** : Will the hon. the Minister for Development be pleased to state—

(a) whether Brahmins are appointed presidents and secretaries of the depressed class tenants' co-operative societies against the will of the members ; and

(b) if so, whether the Government propose to get them removed at once ?

A.—(a) & (b) No. Presidents and secretaries are elected by the societies.

Mr. G. R. PREMAYYA .—“ May I know whether societies of the depressed classes are under management of the Labour department ? ”

The hon. Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—“ No, Sir, when they are started, they continue.”

Mr. G. R. PREMAYYA :—“ Is it not a fact that there are some which are under the Labour department ? ”

The hon. Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR .—“ When an application is received to that effect, certainly.”

Mr. G. R. PREMAYYA :—“ May I know the policy of the Government regarding the societies of the depressed classes—whether they are intended or not for the depressed classes ? ”

The hon. Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—“ All societies are intended for the benefit of the members who form the society.”

Mr. G. R. PREMAYYA :—“ If there is an outsider in the society, will the hon. Minister for Development see that he gets out of it ? ”

The hon. Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—“ I do not know. I take it that if there are other members the rules provide for them. Till the rules are modified, how can I prevent others becoming members ? ”

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Mr. G. R. PREMAYYA :—" Do not the rules say that only persons belonging to depressed classes should be members ? If others come in by mistake of the members or some such thing, is it not the duty of the Government to see that they are removed from the society ? "

The hon. Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—" I do not know if that could be done by the mistake of any member. I suppose the by-laws allow it. If so, the by-laws should be modified. "

Mr. G. R. PREMAYYA :—" May I call the attention of the hon. the Minister that there are two Brahmans as office-bearers of the 'Tenants' Co-operative Society at Odarevu, Bapatla taluk, Guntur district, and that because they are there, the Collector says that land will not be granted on lease to the people ? "

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" The hon. Member is furnishing information. It is not a supplementary question. "

Mr. G. R. PREMAYYA :—" May I ask the Government to appoint office-bearers for the convenience of the society ? "

The hon. Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIAR :—" If what my hon. Friend says is true, I deprecate the appointment of any one as an officer of a society to suit the convenience of officials. Officers are expected to do their duty without depending on societies for their personal conveniences. "

Mr. T. ADINARAYANA CHETTIYAR :—" Is it a fact, Sir, that in these depressed classes societies Brahmans are taken simply because most of the depressed class members do not know to read and write ? "

The hon. Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—" I presume these are elected by the members. "

Mr. G. R. PREMAYYA :—" Arising out of the question of Mr. Adinarayana Chettiyar, may I say, Sir, that with reference to this society there are members who know to read and write ; and that the Brahmans are there for the convenience of the officers of the Co-operative Department ? "

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" The hon. Member is furnishing information. "

Mr. P. BHAKTAVATSULU NAYUDU :—" May I know why Brahmans should have been selected for such kind of posts especially ? "

The hon. Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—" I do not know. It is a matter that should have been considered by the members who took part in the election. "

Mr. P. BHAKTAVATSULU NAYUDU :—" May I know if there are none else qualified for the post ? "

The hon. Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—" It is a matter on which I cannot furnish any information without further enquiry. "

Industries

Applications for industrial loans from Bellary district.

* 408 Q.—Mr. K. ABDUL HYE SAHIB : Will the hon. the Minister for Development be pleased to state—

(a) how many applications have been received this year for industrial loans from Bellary district ; and

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(b) who the applicants are, how many of them will be given industrial loans, how much, and for what purpose?

4.—The following applications for loans under the State Aid to Industries Act have been received by the Director of Industries from the Bellary district :—

(1) Application from M.R.Ry. Muthyala Seenappa Ramanna Garu, Bellary, for a loan of Rs. 20,000 for working a match factory at Bellary.

(2) Application from Messrs. Ebrahim Sait & Co., Proprietors, the Islamia Cotton Ginning and Pressing Company, Limited, Adoni, for a loan of Rs. 40,000 for reviving and developing their factory.

The applications will shortly be placed before the Board of Industries for consideration.

MR. C. GOPALA MENON :—“ With reference to the application for loan for working a match factory at Bellary, I wish to know whether the factory is in existence now, or is it going to be started after receiving the loan ? ”

The hon. Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—“ I do not know, Sir. Lastly, when I had been there, it had not been started.”

MR. C. GOPALA MENON :—“ With regard to answer to clause (2), I understand that loans under the State Aid to Industries Act are granted for developing only ‘ nascent ’ industries. I wish to know whether cotton ginning and pressing business is considered a ‘ nascent ’ industry for which a loan will be granted.”

The hon. Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—“ I have no doubt that the point will be considered by the Board of Industries.”

MR. T. ADINARAYANA CHETTIYAR :—“ May I ask, the hon. the Minister whether this department has already advanced any loans to any match factories ? ”

The hon. Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—“ I should like to have notice, Sir,”

MR. P. BHAKTAVATSULU NAYUDU :—“ Mr. President, Sir, may I know from the hon. the Minister when these applications were received and what will be the duration of time by which these applications will be disposed of, if at all ? ”

The hon. Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—“ The applications were received not very long ago. But I do not know the exact date.”

MR. P. BHAKTAVATSULU NAYUDU :—“ How long will be the duration of time before these applications are disposed of ? ”

The hon. Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—“ The Board of Industries will meet early next month and the applications will then be disposed of.”

MR. L. K. TULASIRAM :—“ Will the hon. the Minister for Development kindly say whether it is a fact that there were only two sittings of the Board of Industries at an interval of six months, and whether he will make arrangements for the Board of Industries to meet half a dozen times in the year to dispose of applications for loans ? ”

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The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" I am not able to understand how the question arises out of the answer given to the question or the answers to supplementary questions. I think the hon. Member is aware of the rule that a supplementary question must refer to a question of fact regarding which elucidation is required. That question of fact must be contained in the answer given by Government. I shall draw his attention to Rule 10 of the Madras Legislative Council Rules, and I wish to know from him definitely what is the statement of fact in any of the answers given by the Government out of which his supplementary question, as to how many times the Board of Industries should meet, arises."

Mr. L. K. TULASIRAM :—" With great respect to you, Sir, I may say that the answer that is attached to question No. 409 raises the question."

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" Question No. 408 is now under discussion."

Mr. L. K. TULASIRAM :—" I am very sorry, Sir."

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" I expect the hon. Members to be more attentive as to the question that is being considered by the House. I hope they will not cause unnecessary inconvenience to the House."

Mr. P. BHAKTAVATSULU NAYUDU :—" May I know from the hon. Minister whether any more similar applications are pending before the Board of Industries? "

The hon. Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—" Does the hon. Member mean applications from the Bellary district? "

Mr. P. BHAKTAVATSULU NAYUDU :—" From the Bellary district or any other district."

The hon. Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—" The answer, Sir, is only two."

Rao Bahadur C. S. RATNASABAPATI MUDALIYAR :—" May I know if these two applications were received prior to the hon. Minister's visit to Bellary or subsequent to his visit? "

The hon. Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—" I cannot give a definite answer because the applications themselves were not received by me in any case."

Government aid to Industries.

* 409 Q—Mr. C. GOPALA MENON : Will the hon. the Minister for Development be pleased to give particulars of the various sums advanced to the different industrial concerns in the Presidency under the State Aid to Industries Act and the results so far achieved by the help rendered to them by the Government?

A.—The attention of the hon. Member is invited to paragraphs 8-10, 8-13 and 11-22 of the Administration Reports of the Department of Industries for 1923-24, 1924-25 and 1925-26, respectively, which have been laid on the Editors' Table.

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Mr. C. GOPALA MENON :—" I wish to know whether the hon. Minister will satisfy himself before making the advances that the loan given to these industries will enable the industries to be set up ? "

The hon. Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—" Surely, that will be one of the factors. "

Mr. C. GOPALA MENON :—" Are there industries to which loans were granted but which have not been able to work with the assistance rendered ? "

The hon. Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—" If the suggestion is, Sir, that when the loan was granted it was granted in spite of the definite knowledge that it will not serve any useful purpose, I deny the suggestion. "

Fisheries

Fish-curing yards in this Presidency.

* 410 Q.—Mr. K. V. R. SWAMI : Will the hon. the Minister for Public Health be pleased to state—

(a) how many fishing and curing yards have been opened in this Presidency and at what places ;

(b) what is the capital invested in each ;

(c) when was each started ;

(d) what is the profit or loss for each year since they were started ; and

(e) whether the hon. the Minister proposes to start such fishing and curing yards either at Vuppada or Neelapalli in the East Godavari ?

A. —(a) One hundred and eight public fish-curing yards have been opened. A statement showing the places where the yards have been opened is laid on the table ^a.

(b), (c) & (d) The Government have no information.

(e) The Government have no such proposals before them. The question of opening a yard in the places mentioned will be considered if the people concerned make an application agreeing to provide at their cost a suitable site and to bear the cost of buildings of the size and kind required. The buildings will, if necessary, be constructed at the expense of Government and the cost recovered from the curers in the usual manner, viz., in the shape of a cess on salt issued.

Mr. K. V. R. SWAMI :—" With regard (b), (c) and (d) will the hon. the Minister be pleased to call for the information ? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR :—" I do not know if it will serve any useful purpose except with reference to (d). "

Mr. K. V. R. SWAMI :—" At least with regard to (d) will he please call for the information ? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR :—" I shall call for the information with reference to (d), Sir. "

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Medical Administration

Number of malarial patients treated in certain local fund dispensaries.

* 411 Q.—Mr. K. R. KARANT : Will the hon. the Minister for Public Health be pleased to state the number of malarial patients treated at the following Local Fund, Municipal and Government dispensaries in the district of South Kanara in each of the years 1900 and since :—

(a) Sullia,	(g) Mulki,	(m) Bantwal,
(b) Kasaragod,	(h) Beltangadi,	(n) Coondapoor,
(c) Hosdrug,	(i) Mudabidri,	(o) Shankaranarayan,
(d) Manjeshwar,	(j) Karkal,	(p) Baindur,
(e) Mangalore,	(k) Someshwar,	(q) others, if any ?
(f) Puttur,	(l) Udupi,	

A.—A statement ^a is appended giving the information available. There is no Local Fund or Government dispensary at Someshwar and the dispensary at Shankaranarayan is a rural dispensary opened only on the 13th July 1926. Information regarding the number of patients treated for malaria at these two places cannot therefore be furnished.

Mr. K. R. KARANT :—“ May I ask the hon. Minister what the terrible increase in malaria is due to and whether any enquiry has been made and whether it is not due to the growth of forest ? ”

The hon. Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR :—“ I am not aware of that, Sir.”

Mr. K. R. KARANT :—“ May I ask the hon. Minister to make an enquiry into the matter as the growing figures as disclosed show that something should be done to eradicate malaria in the district ? ”

The hon. Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR :—“ I am not sure whether it will result in anything because it is possible that the increased figures referred to may be due to the fact that the institutions are becoming more popular.”

Mr. K. R. KARANT :—“ Then, may I ask whether he is not prepared to make an enquiry into the growth of malaria in the district, and whether he is not prepared to give up his theory that it is due to greater efficiency in the dispensaries ? ”

The hon. Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR :—“ I do not know if I can accept the hon. Member's theory, Sir.”

Appointment of Captain Verdon as Superintendent, Government Ophthalmic Hospital, Madras.

* 412 Q.—Mr. ABDUL HAMID KHAN : Will the hon. the Minister for Public Health be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that Captain Verdon, I.M.S., has been appointed Superintendent of the Government Ophthalmic Hospital, Madras ;

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(b) the qualifications of Captain Verdon for the post and his previous experience in civil hospitals, and in eye surgery with full particulars of such experience in eye surgery; and

(c) who is the present Assistant Superintendent of the Ophthalmic Hospital, what are his qualifications and experience in eye surgery and why his claims were not recognized for appointment to the Superintendentship?

A.—(a) Captain P. Verdon, I.M.S., has been appointed to act as Superintendent, Government Ophthalmic Hospital, Madras, during the absence on leave of Major R. E. Wright, I.M.S.

(b) The hon. Member's attention is invited to the answer given to clause (c) of question No. 243.

(c) The present Assistant Superintendent of the Ophthalmic Hospital is M.R.Ry. K. Koman Nayar Avargal. He possesses the following medical qualifications:—

(1) L.M.S. (Madras).

(2) L.R.C.P. S. (Edin.).

(3) D.O.M.S.

He has held the appointment since December 1918. The post of Superintendent of the Government Ophthalmic Hospital, Madras, is an appointment reserved for officers of the Indian Medical Service.

Mr. ABDUL HAMID KHAN :—" May I know from the hon. the Minister for Public Health the year in which this officer was transferred to the civil side ? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR :—" I should like to have notice."

Mr. ABDUL HAMID KHAN :—" I wish to know, Sir, the experience of this officer in eye surgery ? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR :—" The information was already furnished, Sir, on a previous day on the floor of this House."

Mr. ABDUL HAMID KHAN :—" Will the hon. the Minister be pleased to state why the Assistant Superintendent was not given the acting appointment ? "

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" The question was already answered on a previous occasion."

Mr. L. K. TULASIRAM :—" Will the hon. the Minister for Public Health kindly inform me whether this appointment of the Assistant Superintendent is a permanent one or a temporary one ? "

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" That question has already been answered."

Mr. L. K. TULASIRAM :—" Was the gentleman appointed to that office working as a Resident Medical Officer in the Madras General Hospital ? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR :—" He was, Sir, before he was transferred to the eye hospital."

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Mr. L. K. TULASIRAM :—“ Then, Sir, is it the same officer who was acting on the 1st March 1927 when two cases of strangulated hernia were brought to the out-patients department of the General Hospital ? ”

The hon. Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR :—“ I do not know, Sir.”

Mr. L. K. TULASIRAM :—“ Is it, Sir, that this gentleman was not on duty at 6 p.m. on the 1st March 1927, when two cases of strangulated hernia were brought to the out-patients department in the General Hospital ? ”

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—“ The hon. Member has said that he has no information.”

Mr. L. K. TULASIRAM :—“ I thought, Sir, the hon. the Minister could give this information, if not the primary information asked for in my previous question.”

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—“ The question has already been answered.”

Mr. ABDUL HAMID KHAN :—“ May I know the date of the transfer ? ”

The hon. Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR :—“ I should like to have notice.”

Mr. ABDUL HAMID KHAN :—“ Is it necessary that there should be a highly-paid Assistant Superintendent for the eye hospital ? ”

The hon. Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR :—“ I do not know if the question arises now, Sir.”

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—“ But the question has already been answered on a previous occasion when it was stated that it was one of the listed posts.”

Mr. ABDUL HAMID KHAN :—“ Excuse me, Sir, it was not with regard to the Assistant Superintendent. May I know, Sir, if the Assistant Superintendent attends at least to 40 per cent of the cases brought to the hospital ? ”

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—“ The question does not arise out of the answer given or out of the answers to the supplementary questions.”

[Orally answered]

Promulgation of order under section 144 of the Criminal Procedure Code.

* 412-A Q.—Mr. L. K. TULASIRAM : Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that the Collector of Madura has by an order passed under section 144 of the Code of Criminal Procedure prohibited the washing and bathing of men and animals as well as the washing and drying of yarns, cloths, textile fabrics and other materials mordanted, dyed or undyed in the river Vaigai ;

(b) whether the Government is aware that the police taking advantage of the above order are unnecessarily teasing the public from carrying on their usual industrial pursuits ;

(c) whether it is a fact that this order has passed great hardship and inconvenience to the great industrial community of Madura who are chiefly occupied in weaving and dyeing operations ; and

(d) whether the Government will be pleased to instruct the Collector at Madura to suspend the order and allay unrest in Madura ?

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4.—

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—“ Mr. President, Sir, private notice was given to me with reference to this question. The answer is : clause (a) we are not aware that the Collector of Madura has passed any such order ; (b) we are not aware that the police are teasing the public from carrying on their usual industrial pursuits ; (c) the Government note that this order has caused, according to the hon. Member, hardship and inconvenience to the industrial community of Madura ; and (d) the Government will call for a report on the matter immediately.”

Mr. L. K. TULASIRAM :—“ Mr. President, Sir, I have got a copy of the order in my hands.”

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—“ The hon. Member is requested to put his supplementary question.”

Mr. L. K. TULASIRAM :—“ As this order was promulgated under section 144 of the Criminal Procedure Code which usually takes effect for a period of two months and also seeing that the industrial avocations of the law-abiding communities of the city of Madura are being disturbed, will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to issue an order at least suspending that order, so that the people are not put to inconvenience ? ”

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—“ Sir, without knowing under what circumstances the District Magistrate has passed this order under section 144, of which I was not aware until my hon. Friend Mr. Tulasiram gave me notice of this question—it was not contained in any of the periodical reports of the Collector—the Government do not feel justified in superseding or suspending the order. We are calling for a report in the circumstances.”

The RAJA OF RAMNAD :—“ May I Sir, with your permission ask the hon. Questioner whether this order was not passed with reference to a serious outbreak of cholera in the town of Madura ? ”

Mr. L. K. TULASIRAM :—“ It is so, Sir. Mr. President, Sir, the people of Madura . . . ”

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—“ I am sorry the hon. Member is violating the rules. This is not the time for hon. Members to make speeches on questions.”

Mr. L. K. TULASIRAM :—“ I am only saying, Sir . . . ”

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—“ No permission will be given for a speech, nor have I the power to give the hon. Member such permission.”

Appointment of a special officer and a committee to investigate irrigation projects in Ganjam District.

* 412-B Q.—Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. PATRO : Will the hon. Member in charge of Irrigation be pleased to state—

(a) whether, in view of the several irrigation schemes and projects pending in the Ganjam district, such as the ancient scheme at Dusi in the Nagavalli river, the Vamsadhara ancient project, the Rushikulya Reservoir project, etc., he will immediately depute a special projects officer and appoint a committee of officials and non-officials to co-operate with him and to recommend to Government the several schemes and projects for executing them in the order of urgency ;

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(b) if the anicut scheme over the Nagavalli was considered as part of and improvement of existing irrigation under the Ganjam minor rivers system; and

(c) if not, will the hon. Member be pleased to have it examined from that point of view as an insurance against failure of crops under the channels?

A.—

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—“ Sir, Mr. President, I ought really, if I had the time, to have answered it in response to certain remarks that fell from the hon. Member for Ganjam yesterday. The position is this. The project for the construction of an anicut at Dusi in the Nagavalli river under the Ganjam minor rivers system was under the consideration of Government in 1925. It was dropped because of the difficulties arising in connexion with vested interests. But the question had been revived at the instance of the present questioner. Reference has therefore been made again to the Collector on certain aspects of the matter and he has been asked to consider the feasibility of the scheme. With regard to the committee, the hon. Member did me the honour of speaking over that subject with me. The Government are now considering the possibility of constituting a very small committee with reference to the examination of these projects, several aspects of which were brought forward during the debate yesterday.”

Sriman BISWANATH DAS Mahasayo :—“ May I know what are those interests referred to by the hon. the Law Member? ”

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—“ The interests that are vesting there, the estate interests and the Government interests.”

Sriman BISWANATH DAS Mahasayo :—“ May I know how in any of these projects there is a vested interest? ”

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—“ Notice, Sir.”

UNSTARRED QUESTIONS

Irrigation

Construction of shutters over the Kistna anicut.

413 Q.—Mr. K. V. R. SWAMI: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether any shutters were constructed over the anicut of Kistna river;

(b) what are the height and the length of these shutters;

(c) what is the total cost;

(d) to what extent is the capacity of the water-supply increased; and

(e) whether it is contemplated to construct any similar shutters over the anicut of Godavari?

A.—(a) Yes.

(b) Twenty-nine sets of 11 shutters, each shutter 10 feet long and 6 feet high, were erected.

(c) Rupees 3·80 lakhs.

(d) It is too soon to say.

(e) The question is being examined by the Chief Engineer.

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Expenditure on the Polavaram Island project.

414 Q.—Mr. K. V. R. SWAMI: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

- (a) what is the capital expenditure likely to be incurred in connexion with Polavaram Island project;
- (b) what portion of this expenditure has already been incurred;
- (c) when is the work likely to be completed; and
- (d) what extent of land is likely to be irrigated in the first five years?

A.—(a) 14·06 lakhs (excluding establishment and indirect charges).

(b) 2·35 lakhs.

(c) By the end of 1930–31.

(d) Actual irrigation is expected to begin in the fifth year of construction of the project, i.e., in 1929–30 when 2,000 acres are likely to be irrigated. The probable extent of irrigation at the end of each year for the subsequent four years is 4,000, 6,500, 8,000 and 9,000 acres.

Alleged sinking of the Gannavaram motor launch.

415 Q.—Mr. K. V. R. SWAMI: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Collector of East Godavari has made a report regarding the sinking of the Gannavaram motor launch near Vadapalli in November last;

(b) whether there are any rules in force regulating the accommodation, supervision and other matters regarding these motor launches; and

(c) if not, whether the hon. Member will be pleased to frame any?

A.—(a) Yes.

(b) & (c) Some of the navigation rules have been applied to a small portion of the river between the railway bridge near Rajahmundry and the anicut at Dowlaishweram. The question of making better provision for the control of traffic on the whole river has been raised by the Collector of East Godavari and is under consideration.

Estimate for the Mettur project.

416 Q.—Mr. K. V. R. SWAMI: Will the hon. the Law Member, the hon. the Member for Revenue and the hon. the Member for Finance be pleased to state—

(a) what is the total estimate for the whole of the Mettur project;

(b) how much of it has been spent;

(c) what is the estimated return likely to be obtained from this project;

(d) when was the Mettur project commenced; and

(e) when is it likely to be completed?

A.—(a) Six hundred and twelve lakhs as sanctioned by the Secretary of State in 1925.

(b) The attention of the hon. Member is invited to the abstract statement in Appendix II to the Budget Memorandum presented on 1st March 1927.

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- (c) In the neighbourhood of 7 per cent.
- (d) In 1925.
- (e) A ten-year period was contemplated in the scheme as sanctioned but it is now hoped that a greater use of machinery may reduce the period to seven years.

Education

Proposal to construct a school at Nandalur.

417 Q.—Mr. A. PARASURAMA RAO: Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

- (a) whether the High School at Nandalur has any building either for the school or for hostel;
- (b) whether there was any proposal made till now to build a school-house and hostel at Nandalur;
- (c) whether the District Board President of Cuddapah was asked to select site for these two buildings and prepare plans and estimates; and
- (d) whether the District Board President submitted any; if so, will the hon. the Minister for Education be pleased to place them on the table?

A.—(a) The Board High School at Nandalur is located in a building belonging to the district board. The hostel attached to the school is located in a rented building.

- (b) & (c) In November 1913, the President, District Board, Cuddapah, applied for a grant from the Government for the construction of a building for the Nandalur High School. He was told to renew his application after the plans and estimates had been prepared and sanctioned by competent authority. No further application has till now been received. The Government are not aware of any proposal for the construction of a building for the hostel, nor have they asked the President, District Board, to select a site for the buildings in question.

(d) No.

Grants for primary schools started by local boards.

418 Q.—Mr. A. PARASURAMA RAO: Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

- (a) whether the Government is bearing the net cost of all the primary schools started under their order by the taluk boards;
- (b) whether in such schools if a second teacher had to be employed owing to the increase in the strength of the schools such additional expenditure is also borne by the Government; and
- (c) whether any applications from taluk boards have been received for increasing the grant on account of the employment of additional teachers and if so, how were such applications disposed of?

A.—(a) Fixed subsidies are paid from Provincial funds towards the maintenance of elementary schools opened by local bodies at the instance of the Government; the net cost system does not obtain in the case of elementary schools.

(b) No.

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- (c) Applications for increased grants were received from some taluk boards. The taluk boards were asked to meet the extra expenditure from the elementary education funds under their control.

Civil Veterinary Department

Working of the Hosur cattle farm.

419 Q.—Mr. K. V. R. SWAMI: Will the hon. the Minister for Development be pleased to state—

- (a) when was the Hosur cattle farm started;
- (b) what is the capital expenditure incurred up till last year;
- (c) what is the ordinary expenditure incurred in each year;
- (d) what profit is made in each year, if any;
- (e) how many cattle are kept at the farm;
- (f) what is the daily produce;
- (g) whether it is intended to start any such farms in Andhra Desa; and
- (h) if so, where?

A.—(a) In September 1924.

(b) Excluding the cost of land and buildings on the farm the capital cost on account of purchase of live and dead stock was Rupees 30,449 in 1924-25 and Rs. 16,323 in 1925-26.

(c) Rupees 19,191 in 1924-25 and Rs. 35,995 in 1925-26.

(d) There is no profit. The farm is not worked on a commercial basis.

(e) Four hundred and twenty cattle on 1st March 1927.

(f) The daily milk production varies from 300 lb. to 600 lb. according to the varying number of cattle in milk. But the real produce of the farm is calves which are reared up to adult age.

(g) & (h) No. There is already a farm at Chintaldevi for the Ongole breed of cattle.

[*Note.*—An asterisk (*) at the commencement of a speech indicates revision by the Member.]

II

MOTIONS ON THE BUDGET FOR 1927-28—*cont.*

DEMAND VIII—GENERAL ADMINISTRATION—HEADS OF PROVINCES—*cont.*

The debate on Mr. S. Satyamurti's motion to reduce the allotment of Rs. 19,100 for Private Secretary to His Excellency the Governor by Rs. 100 was resumed.

* Diwan Bahadur M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—"The opinions of the ex-Ministers, the Raja of Panagal and Sir A. P. Patro, have been already quoted by my hon. Friend, Mr. Satyamurti. It will be remembered, Sir, and I attach particular importance to that fact, that these opinions were given by these two Ministers when they were actually in office and not after they resigned. The Reserved side of the Madras Government was not on the whole in favour of the grant of autonomy to this province. Even that Reserved side had to admit that if any province deserved an advance in this direction it was Madras and that, on the whole, the reform had worked well in this presidency. In paragraph 8 of the Muddiman Committee's report it

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is stated the Madras Government report that 'the transitional constitution has worked with a considerable measure of success in Madras.' Further on they say 'that after an earnest attempt to work it on constitutional lines, . . . the Madras Presidency has showed itself fitter for advance than any other province.' So that, that was the opinion of the Government, as a whole. Further there is this fact, that even in other provinces which did not work these political reforms so successfully as this Province, all the Indian Members of Government, whether Ministers or Executive Councillors, whether they were actually in office or were in office before, were, without any exception, in favour of further advance being given, some of them for grant of complete autonomy and others for grant of partial autonomy with certain qualifications and restrictions. And it may not be irrelevant to state here that the only exception I find in that brilliant galaxy of Indian Members is my hon. Friend Sir C. P. Ramaswami Ayyar. He is the only Executive Councillor. . . ."

* The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—"My hon. Friend cannot know what opinions I held and what opinions I have expressed ; and he is not in order in mentioning my name without verifying facts."

* Diwan Bahadur M. KRISHNAN NAYAR :—"My authority is the published report of the evidence which was given before the Muddiman Committee. I searched as carefully as I can, all the pages of the report; I found there the opinions of Lord Sinha, Mr. Setalvad and many other gentlemen."

* The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—"Rightly or wrongly, this Government took the view that individual opinions of hon. Members of the Executive Council were not in order in a matter of this kind and that what really mattered was the opinion of the Governor in Council."

* Diwan Bahadur M. KRISHNAN NAYAR :—"It comes to the same thing. I have searched all the pages of the published records in connexion with this enquiry, and I do not find in the many thousands of pages that they contain any opinion recorded by my hon. Friend. My point was that even in other provinces the Indian Members of Government, Ministers and Executive Councillors, were in favour of autonomy. You will also notice that the present Secretary of State, Lord Birkenhead, and his predecessor, both of them expressed the opinion, that Madras worked these reforms satisfactorily; if that is so, it is the best argument for the grant of provincial autonomy. Diarchy is an experiment and it has been found unsatisfactory. It will also be noticed that there is no system of Government corresponding to diarchy anywhere on the face of the earth. India is the only country where that experiment has been tried and the experiment has proved to be a failure. Having regard to that circumstance, this unsatisfactory system should be put an end to."

"Then it is stated in the Report of the Committee that with reference to some of the subjects, autonomy may be granted. For instance, law-reporting is one of such subjects. We do not care whether law-reporting is a Reserved subject or a Transferred subject. They have recommended gas and boilers also to be Transferred subjects. There is already enough of gas in

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the country, and enough of boiling also. A certain measure of reform has been granted to this country; it is impossible to go back on it, and it is dangerous to stand-still. We must move and I submit that the first step in the forward movement is the transfer of all the subjects that are now vested in the Reserved half. We have seen that the Ministers who were in office before had stood for the grant of autonomy. Personally, I am very interested in watching, I believe the Council and the country will also be interested in watching, how the present Ministers whether they are in the words of my hon. Friend, Mr. Satyamurti, the pets of the Bureaucracy or not, vote on this motion."

* Mrs. S. MUTHULAKSHMI REDDI:—"Mr. President, regarding this motion now before the Council, I rise to say a few words. I had been listening to the very interesting discussions that have been going on since the budget was presented to this Council, the petitions and appeals seeking help from Government, from the depressed and minority communities against the aggression of the more fortunately placed communities, the expressions of discontent and dissatisfaction from the members of the Swaraj party, at the unfulfilled promises on the part of the Government. I have also been listening to the soothing replies and explanations and vindications of justice coming from the Members of Government. Of course, the whole position seems to be a very uncomfortable one both for the rulers and the ruled. No doubt we feel grateful and thankful to the British Government for the freedom of speech that has been granted to us, because, through the representatives of this Assembly who voice forth the feelings of the people of this province, the Government comes to know the real state of affairs in the country. I have been watching also not without a feeling of admiration the very polite and considerate replies of the European Members so characteristic of the British nation, a nation famed for its love of freedom and for its many sacrifices in the cause of liberty. I do feel that they are doing their very best to help us and teach us the art of Government. But, at the same time, I hope this Government recognizes the gradual growth of the national consciousness and the increasing demand on the part of the people to control their own affairs and look after their own homes. It is a natural and legitimate craving which comes to every growing nation, as it comes to every individual, at one stage or another of its existence. I am sure the Government recognizes these legitimate aspiration on the part of the people. We cannot deny that the British Government has conferred upon us many benefits as was prophesied by no less a person than Raja Ram Mohan Roy, the reformer and father of modern India even at the very commencement of British rule. It has bestowed on us peace, law and order; it has brought about unification of the races through one Government, through one common language. It has brought us into intimate contact with western culture and the freedom-loving nations of the West. Above all, it has opened our eyes to our own defects. So it was not in vain that the East and the West came together. What is our lot to-day? Having come in contact with the free nations of the West, we find to our great sorrow that we are not respected as being a subject nation. The free nations look down upon us because we are not able to manage our own affairs. So, no self-respecting Indian, with a mind to think and a heart to feel could put up with such an indignity. As we are, we have to admit that we have fallen in the scale of nations, as a subject nation we do not possess those rare qualities of the mind and body which

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are the monopoly of the free nations of the West. No wonder, because our educational systems are all imitations. Our graduates of the universities, in spite of their high degrees, do not reap the full benefit of their education and do not possess real culture. They are wanting in originality and inventive faculty. So, we have to depend on the West for all our up-to-date information and knowledge in all spheres of human activity. While I admire the average Englishman for his high level of culture, for his politeness, for his independent and manly bearing, for his discipline and orderly conduct, I feel sorry that the average Indian does not possess those qualities, except a few individuals here and there, because, I feel that we are not developing on the right lines, the lines most suited to our temperament, to our environment and to our climate. We have not been exercising our body and mind; everything is being done to us as the result of which we have not developed our trade, our industry and our commerce. We find that the percentage of literacy is low. There is never ending famine, ever-recurring epidemics; we record the greatest mortality, the average age of an Indian being 20 while that of an European is over 50. In the eloquent appeal made for dominion status for India, Dr. Besant said 'The people of India are appallingly poor. Forty millions never know what it is not to be hungry. Seventy millions have never more than one meal a day. It is estimated that two-thirds of India's 300 millions live on three-fourths of a minimum subsistence.'

"No doubt, the Government are doing their best for us. But how could you expect people coming from that distance to get familiar with our conditions and to know our temperament and administer to our demands in the way we like them to do? So, let us shoulder our responsibility in earnest, let us ask for more power to look after our own affairs. At the same time let me also impress upon the Government that we want their help and guidance for some time more. As one of the Adi-Dravida brethren expressed to me the other day, there is still the fear in the minds of the depressed classes and minority communities, without the help of the Britisher, whether the question of untouchability will be solved; even we women fear whether the unjust divorce and inheritance laws will be cancelled or modified without their help. While all of us Muhammadans, Christians, Hindu Brahmans and non-Brahmans, both men and women, realize that the salvation of the country lies in unity and united efforts, let us even to-day extend that liberty and fraternity to our depressed classes brethren and throw open our schools and temples and sacred shrines to them. Let us demonstrate to them that we are one with them without showing any difference between man and man, remembering the maxim 'let us live and let others live.' As our religion says 'Humanity is one as God is one,' let us put that maxim to practice at once and take a crusade to the villages and enlighten the masses on these nation-building ideals. When we realise that fellowship and fraternity, no power on earth will resist our demands for freedom."

* Mr. R. SRINIVASA AYYANGAR :--"I do not think that there is any Member in this House with the possible exception of a few die-hards here and there who are satisfied with the present state of things and who do not wish for further constitutional advance. The diarchic system which is the gift of the reforms has been a failure and is full of anomalies. In my opinion, Sir, —whether it is entitled to weight or not is another matter, an opinion born

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of strong conviction and a proper reading and understanding of the diarchic system of administration in this country—this diarchy is nothing more or nothing less than a bureaucratic key which the bureaucrats want to use for carrying on their administration in their own fashion. That diarchy has failed as such, and as a system of administration, admits of no doubt. In support of this statement, I can invoke the high testimony of several ex-Ministers and other persons notable among them being Mr. C. Y. Chintamani and Lala Harikishen Lal.

“Some credit was claimed on behalf of this Presidency that the old Ministry worked the reforms for what they were worth satisfactorily for a period of six years. In passing, I may say that the hon. Member from South Malabar was not perfectly right when he stated that Lord Birkenhead also was of the same opinion. I carefully read the speech of Lord Birkenhead some time ago. All that he said was, without committing himself one way or the other, that the Madras Government said that diarchy worked very satisfactorily. He never said that he was prepared to concur in that view nor did he say that he shared it. We have been working under a system which is full of anachronisms. The position of the Ministers under this system of Government is very peculiar. They are kept in the leading strings of the bureaucracy. They have no power, no initiative and no responsibility. As responsible representatives of the people, returned by the people and wedded to work for the people, they find themselves, as it were, tied down in every direction with the result that they are unable to rise to the full stature of manhood. We do desire not only to stand erect but also to walk erect; but many impediments are thrown in our way as a consequence of which we are kept in that enslaved condition. I may also say, Sir, that it is a tragedy in the political history of this country that under this peculiarly unworkable and impracticable system of diarchy this anomaly should have arisen. The department of Agriculture is in the hands of a Minister, but Irrigation is a Reserved subject; the department of Industry is in the hands of a Minister, but Forest is a Reserved subject. And, if I remember right, the Muddiman Committee recommended that Forests may be made a Transferred subject. Although two years have passed since that recommendation was made, I do not know exactly what attempt has been made in that direction. If we are to progress along right lines and if we are to take our place among the comity of nations, something more must be done to give the provincial autonomy. There is no use of screwing down the safety valve, thereby making the whole thing burst. The answer oftentimes given to us is that we are wreckers and that we have come here to wreck a particular system. As the system is bad from beginning to end and as we are satisfied that the system is not quite suited to us, it is impossible for us to accept this system or to try it. We want a better and far more satisfactory and far more acceptable system and in endeavouring to get it we are bound to expose the hollowness of the present system. That being so, we are perfectly justified in laying before this House all the points which go to prove that the system has failed, no matter whether the authorities concerned feel that it has succeeded or failed here. Our point is that the system as a whole has thoroughly failed and that there must be a complete change in the view point of Great Britain. There must be a complete change in their ideas regarding the welfare and better government of this country.

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"There must also be a change in the powers that inhere in His Excellency the Governor. One hon. Member, Mr. Kaleswara Rao, compared His Excellency to an autocrat or a Nabob. We are having a benevolent despotism. We pant for constitutional advance for which this province is fitted."

* Mr. V. I. MUNISWAMI PILLAI : -"Sir, since the proposition on the floor of the House is one to discuss the question of further constitutional reforms for this province and grant of provincial autonomy, I, as a representative of the depressed classes, have to voice their feelings on this important matter. If I am asked whether my community is ready for further reforms and provincial autonomy, I would say 'No'. The depressed classes form one-sixth of the population of the Presidency and are undergoing the gravest disabilities, politically, socially and economically. Dogs and swine may roam over the sacred precincts of the temples but the shadow of the untouchable is an abomination. Our economic conditions are worse, and unless and until we are given a wider field of education and our social condition is uplifted, we cannot and are not in a position to join with the other section of the House in claiming more reforms. Had it not been for the advent of the Britisher, our position would have been still worse and we need the Britisher at the heads of all departments from whom we can get justice. Now, coming to the question of provincial autonomy, I might say that until untouchability is removed from the face of the Presidency, our depressed state is vanished and our state is raised and we are given chances in all departments of the Government services, it cannot be an accomplished fact. If you all carefully see about the Government services you will find not a single depressed class man as the head of any department. Their disabilities are many and unless these are removed, we cannot claim further reforms and I oppose the motion."

* Mr. D. THOMAS :—"Mr. President, Sir, I would heartily support the motion now before the House. It is rather a pity that this particular motion is before the House in connexion with the salary of the Private Secretary to His Excellency the Governor. I understand that the hon. Mover of this motion intended merely to raise the question of the fitness of this province for further reforms and did not intend to refer to the Private Secretary to His Excellency at all. I believe the Private Secretary is a very useful and necessary officer and that it is not intended by this motion to cavil at his usefulness."

"Now coming to the motion itself, several hon. Members referred to the difficulties and anomalies which are prevailing in connexion with the working of the diarchic system. I believe the authors of the Montford scheme did not intend this diarchy to be a permanent system or a permanent stage in the political development of this country. It was intended only as a temporary measure, a sort of rest-house or halfway house on our march towards the attainment of full responsible Government. This is a sort of wilderness period which has to be spent in the wilderness itself in order to come later to the promised land. In that view of the matter, I would submit for the consideration of the House that every difficulty and every anomaly that is found in the working of this diarchic system is really a stepping-stone for further progress and advance. The real success of the diarchic system lies in its failure. The object of the diarchic system will have been attained when it is taken away and we attain complete freedom and provincial autonomy."

[Mr. D. Thomas]

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"Mr. President, various defects have been pointed out in the present condition of affairs which might be considered as arguments against the grant of provincial autonomy to this province. One is the position of the depressed classes in the Presidency. I would suggest that if we are to wait for the attainment of provincial autonomy till every communal problem in our province is settled, till all the communities are brought to the same level, we may have to wait till Doomsday. This problem of communities and classes is not peculiar to India. It exists in every country in the world and in some countries, it is as acute as it is in our country. They have also various other problems to deal with. Take, for instance, the question of employees and capitalists in England. The labour situation there is as acute as it can be and necessitates a careful handling. I would therefore say that the difficulties which the depressed classes are labouring under and for which they claim just redress ought not to stand in the way of the province attaining full provincial autonomy. On the contrary, the only way of solving the various problems connected with these communities is the attainment of provincial autonomy. It has been stated in various quarters that the Madras Province has been specially successful in the working of the diarchic system. From the way in which this Presidency has worked that system for the last seven or eight years, it has justified its demand for the grant of provincial autonomy."

* Mr. K. V. R. SWAMI :—"Mr. President, Sir, it is clear that no other province has started its work in such favourable circumstances as this. In the year previous to the introduction of the reforms our revenue was 1,560 lakhs and the expenditure 1,130 lakhs. During the first year after the reforms, our revenue was 1,576 lakhs and the expenditure was 1,697 lakhs, thereby leaving a deficit of about 108 lakhs. In the budget year, for a revenue of 1,655 lakhs, our expenditure is 1,724 lakhs and we have a deficit of 69 lakhs. This is the result of the diarchical form of Government. Salaries have been enhanced in every department. The permanent settlement on which this country had set its heart was successfully opposed by the Government and the request of this Council to bring the rates of resettlement within the control of the House was successfully resisted by the Government. In the matter of the separation of the judicial and the executive functions, we are to-day in the same position in which we were a century ago. In other matters also we have not advanced very much. Though a few motions only were carried by this Council they were mostly restored by His Excellency the Governor. Our best men were thrown into prison because they happened to preach temperance and acted in a manner which would be considered to be innocent in any other country. These are the things that we have got in a diarchical system of Government. Unless we are granted full provincial autonomy it is not possible for us to do anything good to the country. It may be that we have three Ministers who are administering the transferred subjects, but in reality they are to a great part guided by the Finance Member who holds the strings of the purse. They have not got freedom of action and initiative. Some people think that we are not fit for self-government because we have got caste and other distinctions in our country. We had all these difficulties perhaps more when we were free. Our freedom was taken away from us by the English. It is anomalous to say that they are going to teach us how to rule ourselves when they have deprived us of our freedom. It was admitted even by Lord Curzon that the Englishmen were roaming in the woods with painted bodies when India had

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[Mr. K. V. R. Swami]

attained the highest form of civilization. Government in some of the Indian States is much better than the Government here; they manage their affairs much better than we do here. It is absurd to think that we have to be tutored by Englishmen in the art of self-government. We are fully qualified to rule ourselves. Only we are yet unable to throw off this Government. The methods that we adopted hitherto did not appeal to them. If there is anything that we are lacking in, it is self assertion. Fortunately or unfortunately, we are being guided by a sage who thinks that peaceful methods would solve the problem. Even this Government should yield as any other Government in the world. Having tried all these methods, if we find that we have failed to attain our end, no one except the Government will be held responsible for having recourse to other methods. With these few words, I recommend the motion for the acceptance of the House."

* Mr. R. NAGAN GOWDA:—"Mr. President, Sir, I rise to discuss the question of provincial autonomy. Before doing that, I want to know whether a member who is nominated to this Council can discuss that question. I believe he can. When the reforms were first introduced into this country, it was given to understand that the goal of British Government in India would be to raise India to the status of the self-governing dominions of the Empire. The present question is whether we are fit for provincial autonomy in this Presidency.

"The management of a country is just like the management of a household, but only on a more extended scale. The difficulties in the management of a household are not sometimes much less than those in the management of a state. Have we not managed our affairs in this country for centuries, nay, for thousands of years? Democracy did exist in this country. That fact has been shown by recent researches. The village was an autonomous unit in the government of the country for a long long time. After the advent of the British Government the village, as a unit, has been broken down and it is important that it should be reinstated.

"I was away from this country five years before and after the Reforms and I had the privilege of comparing the conditions before and after. I can say with certainty that the people do appreciate the franchise that has been given, though it is only to a limited extent. They realize now that they have some control over the Government which rules them. Take the Police Department for example. It is only when the Government is made to be a servant of the people that the policemen in the streets of the villages will be friends of the people rather than merely servants of the Government, whom the people must obey.

"If the Ministers had full freedom in the working of diarchy they would be able to do something. Huge salaries are paid to the officers. We are in a country where seven rupees per mensem is a big wage. There are many officers drawing thousand rupees and more. If the villagers had any power in determining how the taxes are to be raised and how they have to be spent they will be able to effect more economy than the British Government have been able to do.

"There are other ways of being economical. 90 per cent of our people live in huts. When such is the case, the villager will not approve of the large expenditure that we are incurring on buildings, etc. He would certainly economise the expenditure a great deal more. This point has been lost sight of.

[Mr. R. Nagan Gowda]

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"The high salaries have been fixed for people who come here from a long way off leaving their relatives and their own social surroundings. For them, the salary has been fixed at a large amount. That ought not to be the rate which we Indians living in our own native country amidst our own surroundings ought to be paid.

"If the village is made the unit, the villager will decide upon the question of taxation and expenditure. For that it is necessary that adult franchise should be given in this country as early as possible."

* Mr. K. R. VENKATARAMA AYYAR :— "Mr President, Sir, my hon. Friend, the Member for the University, has placed this House under a deep debt of gratitude in having raised this question of questions, the grant of complete responsible government for this province, under the head of general administration.

"The real object of this motion is not to effect any saving from the allotment for the staff of the Private Secretary to His Excellency the Governor. That staff will continue as complete and as comfortable as ever before even if this motion is carried by the House unanimously. The object of this motion is to invite this new Council which has come with a mandate from the electorate to declare in unmistakable terms its considered opinion that the people of this province are fit to bear the burden of complete responsible government.

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"The House is invited by the motion to declare whether in its opinion there is any longer a necessity to maintain the highly illogical, unscientific and arbitrary distinction between the three seats occupied by the hon. the Ministers on the Treasury Bench and the four seats next above them in the same row. If you ignore for the moment those Members of the House who, by reason of the disability of their offices under the Crown, cannot expect to occupy any of those seven seats under a system of complete responsible government, it is difficult to imagine any good ground, in the light of the experience gained hitherto, for any of the other Members of the House to be obsessed by a sense of the inability of the elected Members of this House to bear the burden of complete responsible government. Sir, it is not true that complete responsible government would add to the burden that will be thrown on the elected Members of this House. Far from it. It only removes the shackles and obstacles that prevent this House from functioning to the best public advantage. Does not the effectiveness of this Council suffer to a very great extent and is not our capacity to serve our constituents to the best of our ability—at a considerable discount by reason of the anomalous distinction between the Reserved and the Transferred halves? Sir, it is indeed a misnomer to refer to them as halves. If they were equal halves, one-half would be no more reserved than the other. Sir, it is not a Cabinet of equal halves by any means or to any extent. It is a combination of unlike, incompatible and conflicting elements thrown together with excellent provision in the machinery for friction, deterioration and wastage. Sir, six long years have already been spent over this entirely misconceived and unfair experiment. If these six years had been spent in working a system of complete responsible government, this province with its extraordinary genius for harmonious co-operation would undoubtedly have made considerable headway in the direction of good government. But has even this unfair experiment of diarchy been worked by us? With all its handicaps, the experiment has been worked very successfully. I would say that it is due to the whole-hearted desire on the part of the bulk of the people of this

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Presidency, to prove their fitness for complete responsible Government. It is this nearly universal desire that is turning, even under the most trying conditions, the powerful energy of the largest single group of elected representatives in this House in aid of the honest and *bona fide* efforts on this side of the House to make the best out of the present unsatisfactory constitution. We thus stand together in a common endeavour sustained by the hope that our capacity to sink our differences and pull together towards our common goal will not be tested unduly long. Sir, we are sustained by the belief that having established our fitness to govern ourselves even under diarchy, we will before the next general election be enabled by Parliament to take a definite step forward. The electorate has given no uncertain mandate on this point. The electors well realized during the last campaign the significance and effectiveness of the Party System. His Excellency's appeal for the formation of real political parties was very appropriate and opportune. The country had already made up its mind in that direction and His Excellency merely gauged the public opinion that was making itself felt and set the seal of his approval on it."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT:—"The hon. Member's speech is not relevant to the matter under discussion, and as his time-limit is over, I call upon the hon. the Revenue Member to reply."

* The hon. Mr. N. E. MARJORIBANKS:—"Sir, the subject which has been chosen for discussion on this token motion makes me the official spokesman of this bench. We have listened with attention and interest to the speeches of hon. Members from all parts of the House, and it is impossible not to feel their sincerity. It is impossible not to sympathise with the expression of their aspirations. Sir, this is a Provincial Government, that is to say, a subordinate Government. We are therefore not responsible for the present constitution, nor have we the power to alter it. Our duty, so long as we remain in office, is to administer it to the best of our ability for the good of the people. Three years back, the Government as then constituted was called upon to report on certain aspects only of diarchy and its working, and they did so. That report is in the hands of hon. Members. They will of course understand that it is the report of the collective Government. It seems probable that at no distant date, we may be called upon to consider the subject possibly in all its aspects. Hon. Members may rest assured that, when the time comes, we shall not fail to give full weight to the sentiments which have been given expression to in this House on this occasion. I would now merely ask hon. Members not to imagine that any section of the Government is hostile to the fulfilment of their legitimate aspirations."

* Mr. SAMI VENKATACHALAM CHETTI:—"Mr. President, Sir, this is a very important subject as you are aware and I hope you will excuse me if I exceed the usual time-limit."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT:—"The demand is to be put to vote at 12-52"

* Mr. SAMI VENKATACHALAM CHETTI:—"One thing upon which I wish to congratulate the hon. the Revenue Member is that this is the first occasion on which he has made himself quite audible in this House and I should be glad if this is an earnest of what is going to come. Sir, it would be conceded that the feeling with regard to this question from all sections of the House is unanimous, except a very few Members who represent the depressed classes. They seem to be under the impression that the privileges and

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rights which they are now enjoying are due to the permanency of British bureaucracy in this country. May I put to them a question? The English bureaucracy has been here for the last 150 years and I would like to know if they have moved their little finger to improve the condition of the depressed classes until a few years ago. Even the sympathy which they are now showing is not due to their desire to improve the condition of the depressed classes in India but with a view that the depressed classes complain against the higher classes and make the higher classes unpopular. In the attempt which the Government will make to improve the condition of the depressed classes, sincerity and co-operation will not be wanting on the part of the higher classes. It was never felt until the British Government came in that there should be no difference of caste. Caste in this country has a history of its own. The system with all its faults, has its advantages as distinguishable from the class divisions in western countries. In every caste there is more democracy than there is between classes in western countries. One caste is never meant to arrogate any of the functions or duties which any other caste owes to society in general. I do not propose now to use my time on any dissertation on the usefulness of the caste system. But it must be admitted that the present state of things is due to various causes. I think the representatives of the depressed classes will be generous enough to admit that now at least the higher classes are realizing their fault or any laxity on their part and trying to make amends in that direction. As has been very pertinently pointed out by hon. Friend, Mr. Daniel Thomas, if our getting provincial autonomy should depend upon settling all differences amongst all communities of this vast country, the Englishman might feel himself completely relieved of any anxiety on his part and might find himself comfortable.

“I join issue with what has been stated by my hon. Friend Mr. Arpudawami Udayar. He has attributed the improvement which we have had, to the British Government. No doubt, to some extent. The restoration of peace and order is due to the British Government. But at what cost, at what national degeneration, and at what loss of national wealth, is a different story. It is true we have been educated not with a view to make ourselves useful citizens of the country but educated, educated so as to serve as clerks in their offices. Our commerce has been subordinated to foreign commerce. Our industries have been starved to give an upper hand to the industrialists in western countries. I am not prepared to grant that the bureaucracy have been in this country in our interests. Nor do we expect they will say that they are here in our interests. If they should say so, I do not think that that contention can hold water for a second. The hon. Mr. Marjoribanks said that, when they would be consulted with regard to the feeling in this country for further reforms, they would not stand in our way and that they would give due weight to the sentiments given expression to in this House. But in the communication which they submitted to the Government of India when this Government were called upon to express their opinion on the working of the Reforms they said :

‘His Excellency the Governor in Council is inclined to doubt whether opinion is as unanimous as the Ministers have been led to believe and he is not prepared to agree that the time has come for a complete transfer. Moreover, he feels that the limitations laid down in the memorandum prepared for the new Reforms Committee, according to his construction of the utterances in Parliament on the subject of the policy and purpose of the Act, preclude this Government from discussing the transfer of the three fundamental subjects, which are (1) the administration of the land revenue, which connote the general administration, (2) Law and Order including Jails and (3) Finance.’

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“Again they say, referring to financial relations,

‘His Excellency the Governor in Council does not desire in the present connexion to embark on a discussion of this controversy. It is sufficient, for the present purpose, to point out the result of the financial embarrassments of the Province, as they have affected the working of the Reforms, and popular opinion in relation thereto. Unless these embarrassments can be mitigated or removed, His Excellency the Governor in Council anticipates that no changes in the Reform scheme, whether in the direction of extending the sphere of Ministerial control or otherwise, will result in material improvement.’

“Now there is no prospect of the removal of this great octopuslike grip over our head. I hope it would be proper for His Excellency the Governor now to indicate that some change in the Reforms may be made with safety.

“So far as the grant of Provincial autonomy is concerned, Sir, I should think the Government which has watched working of the Reforms for six years and certified, from its own point of view, that it has been a success, should have no hesitation in taking the initiative on behalf of the country and moving the authorities concerned for the grant of complete Provincial autonomy and for the transfer of all the subjects to the Ministers, including Finance, which is perhaps the key to all the other departments. With these words, Sir, I commend the motion for the acceptance of the House.” 12-45 p.m.

* Rao Sahib R. SRINIVASAN :—“Sir, as everyone knows, all countries which enjoy Self Government have no untouchability among the various communities, and if India wants Swaraj, it should first remove untouchability. It would then be fit for Self-Government just like the other countries which enjoy Self-Government. I ask, Sir, whether there is any punishment on earth worse than untouchability. A man may even be hanged and be done with but an untouchability, generation in, generation out is intolerable. We all know that there is this crime in this country and we also know that equal rights and privileges are accorded to all communities in the other countries which enjoy Self-Government. It is a useless thing if more responsibility is given without elevating the depressed classes. Diarchy is trying to ameliorate their condition. The oratory and eloquence in this Council will not be a test to grant the autonomy. The coming Royal Commission should go to the villages. There is the tissue of administration. Since of late there is an awakening among the Depressed, not one out of a hundred villages that is not suffering. The depressed classes are all suffering from prosecutions and persecutions to an unlimited extent. Since the introduction of diarchy, the condition is being looked after by the Government, I mean only from a few years back. If diarchy is to go now, then their fate is sealed. We are quite prepared to be ruled under diarchy at present and we want no reformed Government or autonomy. Now, Sir, what is the opinion of the six millions of India? They are not a negligible community; they are a large community and not a floating population. They are the people of the country, the tillers of the soil and the bulwarks of the British Empire. Are they to be ignored when they say that they do not want this Self-Government? If India gets Self-Government, where is the guarantee and what is there to safeguard them against further tyranny? I fully oppose the motion.”

Mr. K. R. KARANT :—“I move that the question be now put.”

Mr. G. Harisarovtama Rao seconded the motion.

The motion was put to the House and declared carried. A poll was demanded.

Mr. ABBAS ALI KHAN :—“On a point of order, Sir. The discussion on the Demand automatically closes at 12-52 p.m. when the Demand should be put to the House. Will any object be served by putting this motion now?”

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The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" It is not a point of order."

A poll was then taken with the following result :—

Ayes.

1. Mr. M. R. Seturatnam Ayyar.
2. The Zamindar of Gollapalli.
3. Mr. Sami Venkatachalam Chetti.
4. " H. F. P. Hearson.
5. " C. E. Wood.
6. " C. V. Venkataramana Ayyangar.
7. " T. Adinarayana Chetti.
8. " P. Anjaneyulu.
9. " K. Koti Reddi.
10. " S. Muttayya Mudaliyar.
11. " P. C. Venkatapati Raju.
12. " C. S. Govindaraja Mudaliyar.
13. " G. Harisarvottama Rao.
14. " C. Muthuranga Mudaliyar.
15. " Abdul Hamid Khan.
16. " K. V. R. Swami.
17. " Muhammad Meera Ravuttar.
18. " D. Narayana Raju.
19. " M. Narayana Rao.
20. " K. Uppi Sahib.
21. " O. Marudhavanam Pillai.
22. " J. A. Saldanha.
23. " C. Obi Reddi.
24. " A. Parasurama Rao.
25. " U. Ramaswami Ayyar.
26. " P. Bakthavatsalu Nayudu.
27. Sriman Biswanath Das Mahasayo.
28. Mr. A. Kalewara Rao.

29. Mr. B. Srinivasa Ayyangar.
30. " Syed Ibrahim Sahib.
31. " A. Kameswara Rao Nayudu.
32. " L. K. Tulasiram.
33. " K. R. Karant.
34. " K. Krishnaswami Nayakar.
35. " K. Madhavan Nayar.
36. " B. Venkataratnam.
37. " M. A. Maniokavelu Nayakar.
38. Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. Patro.
39. " C. S. Ratnasabhapati Mudaliyar.
40. Mr. B. Ramachandra Reddi.
41. The Kumararaja of Venkatagiri.
42. Diwan Bahadur M. Krishnan Nayar.
43. Mr. T. K. Chidambaramatha Mudaliyar.
44. Rao Sahib S. Ellappa Chettiyyar.
45. Syed Khadir Muhi-ud-din Sahib Bahadur.
46. Diwan Bahadur S. Kumaraswami Reddiyar.
47. Rao Bahadur R. Muniswami Nayudu.
48. Mr. I. M. Moidu Sahib.
49. " K. Ramachandra Padayachi.
50. " P. T. Rajan.
51. " K. Sarabha Reddi.
52. Rao Bahadur K. Sitarama Reddi.
53. Mr. J. Kuppaswami Chowdri.

Noes.

1. The hon. Sir C. P. Ramaswami Ayyar.
2. " Mr. N. E. Marjoribanks.
3. " Khan Bahadur Muhammad Usman Sahib Bahadur.
4. " Mr. T. E. Moir.
5. Mr. J. F. Hall.
6. " T. R. Venkatarama Sastriyar.
7. " P. L. Moore.
8. " H. Trema n.

9. Mr. G. T. Boag.
10. " V. Pandrang Row.
11. " S. H. Slater.
12. " C. B. Cotterell.
13. Khan Bahadur Muhammad Basl-ul-lah Sahib Bahadur.
14. Subadar-Major Nanjappa.
15. Mr. K. Subrahmanya Moopanar.

Ayes 53 : Noes 15.

The motion for closure was carried.

The motion to reduce the allotment of Rs. 19,100 for Private Secretary to His Excellency, the Governor by Rs 100 was then put and declared carried. A poll was demanded and the House divided thus :—

Ayes.

1. The Zamindar of Seithur.
2. Mr. H. Ari Gowder.
3. " J. Bheemayya.
4. " M. Hampayya.
5. " V. Ch. John.
6. " J. Nagan Gowda.
7. " T. M. Narayanaswami Pillai.
8. " G. R. Parthasarathi Ayyangar.
9. " W. P. A. Saundrapandiya Nadar.
10. " T. C. Srinivasa Ayyangar.
11. " Chavadi K. Subrahmanya Pillai.
12. " D. Thomas.
13. " K. R. Venkatarama Ayyar.
14. " S. Venkayya.
15. " A. B. Shetty.
16. " M. R. Seturatnam Ayyar.
17. The Zamindar of Gollapalli.
18. Syed Tajuddin Sahib Bahadur.
19. Mr. Sami Venkatachalam Chetti.

20. Mr. C. V. Venkataramana Ayyangar.
21. " T. Adinarayana Chettiyyar.
22. " P. Anjaneyulu.
23. " K. Koti Reddi.
24. " S. Muttayya Mudaliyar.
25. " P. C. Venkatapati Raju.
26. " C. S. Govindaraja Mudaliyar.
27. " G. Harisarvottama Rao.
28. " C. N. Mutturanga Mudaliyar.
29. " Abdul Hamid Khan.
30. " K. V. R. Swami.
31. " Muhammad Meera Ravuttar.
32. " D. Narayana Raju.
33. " M. Narayana Rao.
34. " K. Uppi Sahib.
35. " O. Marudhavanam Pillai.
36. " J. A. Saldanha.
37. " C. Obi Reddi.
38. " A. Parasurama Rao.

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Ayes—cont.

39. Mr. U. Ramaswami Ayyar.
40. „ P. Bhaktavatsula Nayudu.
41. Brinan Biswanath Das Mahasayo.
42. Mr. A. Kaleswara Rao.
43. „ B. Srinivasa Ayyangar.
44. „ Syed Ibrahim Sahib.
45. „ A. Kameswara Rao Nayudu.
46. „ L. K. Tulasiram.
47. „ K. R. Karant.
48. „ K. Krishnaswami Nayakar.
49. „ K. Machavan Nayar.
50. „ B. Venkataratnam.
51. „ M. A. Manikkavelu Nayakar.
52. Rao Bahadur C. S. R. nasabapati Mudaliyar.
53. Mr. B. Ramachandra Reddi.

54. The Kumararaja of Venkatagiri.
55. Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. Patro.
56. Diwan Bahadur M. Krishnan Nayar.
57. Mr. P. T. Rajan.
58. „ T. K. Chidambaranatha Mudaliyar.
59. Rao Sahib S. Ellappa Chettiyar.
60. Mr. Khadir Mubi-ud-din Sahib.
61. Diwan Bahadur S. Kumaraswami Reddiyar.
62. Mr. T. M. Moidu Sahib.
63. Rao Bahadur B. Muniswami Nayudu.
64. Mr. K. Ramachandra Padayachi.
65. „ K. Sarabha Reddi.
66. Rao Bahadur K. Sitarama Reddi.
67. Mr. J. Kuppuswami Chowdri.

Noes.

1. The hon. Sir C. P. Ramaswami Ayyar.
2. „ Mr. N. E. Marjoribanks.
3. „ Khan Bahadur Muhammad Usman Sahib Bahadur.
4. „ Mr. T. E. Moir.
5. Mr. T. R. Venkatarama Sastriyar.
6. „ J. F. Hall.
7. „ P. L. Moore.
8. „ H. Tireman.
9. „ G. T. Boag.
10. „ V. Pandrang Rao.
11. „ S. H. Slater.
12. „ C. B. Cotterell.
13. Khan Bahadur Muhammad Bazl-ul-lah Sahib Bahadur.

14. Mr. Abbas Ali Khan.
15. Subadar-Major Nanjappa.
16. Mr. V. Gangadara Siva.
17. „ K. Subrahmanya Moopanar.
18. „ G. R. Premayya.
19. „ J. F. P. Hearson.
20. Rao Sahib R. Srinivasan.
21. Mr. Sahajanandaswami.
22. „ C. E. Wood.
23. Sir Alexander MacDougall.
24. Mr. C. R. T. Congreve.
25. „ V. I. Muniswami Pillai.
26. Rao Sahib L. C. Guruswami.

Neutral.

1. The hon. Dr. P. Subbarayan.
2. „ Mr. A. Ranganatha Mudaliyar.
3. „ Diwan Bahadur E. N. Arogyaswami Mudaliyar.

4. Mr. Al Ar. Narayanan Chettiyar.
5. „ N. Siva Raj.
6. „ K. Krishnan.
7. „ S. Arpudaswami Udayar.

Ayes 67. Noes 26. Neutral 7.

The motion was carried.

Demand VIII *minus* Rs. 100 was then put to the House and carried.

DEMAND IX—GENERAL ADMINISTRATION—LEGISLATIVE BODIES

* The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR:—"On the recommendation of His Excellency the Governor, I beg to move

'that Government be granted a sum not exceeding 2.70 lakhs under the heading "General Administration—Legislative Bodies".'

* Mr. SAMI VENKATACHALAM CHETTI:—"I move

'to reduce the allotment of Rs. 43,000 for pay of establishments by Rs. 100.'

"To discuss the question of increased accommodation and provision of amenities for Members of the Legislative Council. I move this motion with a view to elicit information with regard to increased accommodation and provision of amenities for Members of the Legislative Council. While expressing satisfaction for the amenities and accommodation so far given, I must say they are still short. The Legislative Council buildings were intended for the use of the Members of the Legislative Council but several rooms are now being occupied by departments of the Secretariat. Perhaps it may be possible for the Government to shift them on to the Secretariat, so that the rooms may be used by the Members of the Legislative Council."

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* The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—" Mr. President, Sir, two wings are now being built for the purpose of accommodating the Members, which will remove the difficulty which has been pointed out by the Leader of the Opposition. In 1925 certain proposals were made for extensions and improvements at a cost of Rs. 74,000. They included the insertion of an intermediate floor over the Council Chamber to provide additional accommodation for a Committee room, rooms for the Deputy President, Council Secretaries, Whips and the Leader of the Opposition. They were approved by the Finance Committee and necessary provision was made in the budget for 1926-27. Finally a revised scheme was formulated for the extension of the Secretariat buildings to the west from the northern and southern ends and this will set free some other accommodation for the Legislative Council. This will satisfy the hon. the Leader of the Opposition with regard to extensions to the Secretariat building. This work has been undertaken. Provision for three temporary rooms in the eastern portion of the gallery in the east end of the Council Chamber and provision for two temporary rooms on each side of the entrance lobby to the Council Chamber, the spiral staircase being removed, has also been made. The scheme also provides for the installation of sanitary fittings. From the above, it will be seen that the Government have been alive to the need for increased accommodation and we have done our utmost in the matter and the inconvenience pointed out by the Leader of the Opposition will very soon be rectified."

The motion was by leave withdrawn.

* Mr. S. ARPUDASWAMI UDAYAR :—" I move

'that the allotment of Rs. 43,000 for pay of establishments be reduced by Rs. 100.'

" I may say at the very outset, Sir, that I have no complaint whatever against your staff and if I may be permitted to single out one or two members of your staff for special mention, I may congratulate you on having a Secretary who is as genial and amiable as he is highly intelligent and cultured and as unostentatious and simple as he is courteous and obliging, and a cashier who places his services at the disposal of the Members and looks after their convenience. But what I say is that the Members must have some kind of special staff."

* The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—" I believe the hon. Member has given notice of the supply of stationery, etc., and not about the staff."

* Mr. S. ARPUDASWAMI UDAYAR :—" Yes, Sir, and also to discuss the need for improving the staff. I press upon this Council the need for having, if necessary, some additional staff, at least a staff of peons, for it is very difficult for Members to go to the office or the Secretariat Library to get some official papers. I remember the other day my Friend Mr. Ramachandra Reddi was not in his place when you called him to move the resolution standing in his name. He wanted to get the Famine Code and having waited for two hours, he had to go to the Secretariat Library to fetch a copy. This is but one instance out of many which proves conclusively the need for an additional staff. It seems that there is no understanding between the Council Library and the Secretariat Library. Therefore Members have either to go there themselves to refer to official documents which are certainly very necessary for their work, because they have to base their arguments on certain facts and not supposition, or must have them supplied to them. So there must be some special staff, or more peons who will undertake to get

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the papers for them. And secondly as regards stationery and forms, it should be possible for Members from their seats in the Council Library, or in the Committee room or here to get whatever stationery they want. I may tell you that I myself applied nearly four times, twice in person and twice by means of letter for the supply of stationery; and the answer was invariably that they were out of stock. But if there was a special staff, the requests of Members for stationery, etc., would be registered and supplied to them without any inconvenience. So, I press for the improvement of the staff and also an additional number of peons to be placed at the disposal of the Members to do the work of bringing stationery, forms or even official publications from the Secretariat library, and otherwise to attend to the comforts and convenience of the Members."

* The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—" I shall first deal with the question of the library. There is a special librarian and an attendant for the Council Library. The Council Office reported, and it was also generally felt that the number of peons was insufficient and therefore one temporary peon was sanctioned for three years and in addition six temporary peons for a year, so that there are seven additional peons now sanctioned for the convenience of the Members of the Legislative Council. My hon. Friend has referred to some difficulty in connexion with the supply of stationery and forms, etc. Having made enquiries on the subject, I find that although at one time there was a little delay, at present all the causes for the delay have been removed and no difficulty is now experienced, or need be experienced by hon. Members in this matter.

"As to the delay in the supply of books of reference from the Secretariat library, I have received certain suggestions on that matter, not only from the speech of the hon. Member who spoke, but also from one or two other Members and the question will be considered as to whether the supply of books from the Secretariat library and the Council Library should not be facilitated in order that the Members may get the books they want as early as possible in future."

The motion was by leave of the House withdrawn.

* Mr. S. ARPUDASWAMI UDAYAR :—" Mr. President, I move

'that the allotment of Rs. 43,000 for the pay of establishment be reduced by Rs. 100.'

"My object is to discuss the anomalous constitutional position of the single largest party in the Council forming the Opposition and furnishing Leaders of the Opposition. I crave the indulgence of the House if I may exceed the time-limit."

* The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—" Sir, with your leave, I would like to raise a point of order. Under our Rules and Standing Orders, the seating arrangements can alone be reasonably construed as being comprised in this motion. The seating arrangements are entirely in the discretion of the hon. the President. We are now concerned with Provincial Legislative Councils. The grant relates to Legislative bodies—Provincial Legislative Councils. In that grant, the question of the anomalous constitutional position of the single largest party can only be raised, if raised at all, with reference to the physical station occupied by certain Members in the House. It cannot be raised under this head for any other purpose and a constitutional question such as this can only be raised under some other head. But as it is

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done under the Demand for Provincial Legislative Councils, I should say that it can only be raised with reference to the seating arrangements, which is solely and statutorily in your discretion. I, therefore, submit that this motion is out of order."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT:—"Has the Leader of the Opposition got anything to say on this motion?"

* Mr. SAMI VENKATACHALAM CHETTI:—"I have none so far as this is concerned."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT:—"Any Member of the Justice party wishing to speak on the motion?"

* Rao Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU:—"The point of order raised was that this subject was not in order, on the ground that it was not germane to the demand that has been moved. I ask, Sir, whether the motion that was moved in regard to Provincial autonomy and passed just before with regard to the additional staff of His Excellency the Governor was germane to that demand?"

* Mr. S. SATYAMURTI:—"Is it open to question your ruling, Sir, in this House?"

* Rao Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU:—"I am not questioning your ruling, Sir, but I am only pointing out the practice of this House to allow questions not necessarily germane to a particular demand being discussed as constitutional questions. The constitutional question of the grant of provincial autonomy was raised in the demand relating to the pay of the Private Secretary to His Excellency the Governor which did not involve any constitutional question. I am only mentioning it as an instance in which such constitutional questions are being discussed whether they are germane to a particular grant or not. Of course, I am not questioning your ruling, but you have allowed us to discuss such things in previous grants."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT:—"Is it a subject with which the Members of Government are officially connected or for which they are responsible in the course of their administration of the departments in their charge?"

* Rao Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU:—"That is a subject on which this House can express its opinion and which the Government may take notice of."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT:—"I believe, in all questions connected with the debate on the budget, the subject should be one connected with the Government officially, i.e., should relate to matters of administration for which they are responsible. Does the hon. Member hold the view that the Government is responsible for determining which shall be the constitutional opposition to Government in this House?"

* Mr. S. ARPUDASWAMI UDAYAR:—"I think the hon. the Law Member as the Leader of the House is connected with the matter and it is with a view to help him in making the Opposition more effectual that I move this motion."

* The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR:—"Sir, I wholly disclaim any responsibility for the effectuating of Opposition or making it more effective. The position in regard to this motion is this. The point of order that I raised was two-fold. My hon. Friend, Mr. Muniswami Nayudu, has dealt with only one aspect of it. The point I raised was this. Primarily so far

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as the seating arrangements, so far as the position or the juxtaposition of the parties in the Council is concerned, it is a matter statutorily and solely vested in you, Mr. President. It is not vested, or it is not regulated by anybody. Nobody has a right to dictate and nobody has a right to advise you in the matter, though you may choose to take advice from any one. As to how these parties should be seated and whether the Opposition should be put into the category of opposition, or certain groups, that is solely left to you. As Members of Government, we have nothing to do with that. As you very rightly observed, all these demands deal only with questions on which there is some responsibility involving in or attaching to Government as such. My submission, therefore, is that first of all it is not germane to this topic; secondly, whatever relevance it may have had to the other topics and other demands, it is not relevant to this demand; and thirdly it is not relevant, as the hon. the President has the sole function of it."

1-15
p.m.

* Diwan Bahadur M. KRISHNAN NAYAR :—" Sir, it seems to me that probably we are labouring under a misapprehension. We have not yet heard anything from the hon. Mover, Mr. Arpudaswami Udayar, as to what points he would raise and what he intended to be the matters on which this discussion is to be based. On the assumption that the hon. Member who has given notice of this motion is going to speak only about seating arrangements, we are proceeding with this discussion now. At any rate, I do not know, and probably none of us is aware what are the points that he is going to raise. And unless we know definitely what his intention is, probably all this discussion will not be useful. "

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" Will the hon. Member, Mr. Arpudaswami Udayar, kindly furnish any information as to the points on which he is going to deal, so that I may be able to decide whether they are in order or not. The question is raised by Mr. Krishnan Nayar that, apart from the question of seating arrangements, there may be other matters regarding which the hon. Member may be willing to raise debate, and that the Government may be held responsible for them. I want to know whether there are any such points. "

* Mr. S. ARPUDASWAMI UDAYAR :—" Yes, Sir, I am going to prove that an Opposition can be formed only by ex-Ministers and that leaders of the Opposition should come from those ranks. "

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" I do not think that a debate on the Budget in regard to this subject is in order. It is a matter that entirely concerns the President and the President is dealing with leaders of various groups in the House including leaders of the Opposition in connexion with the seating arrangements and other arrangements in the House. I do not think Government deals with any group in the House as a group for any administrative purposes, and therefore I hold the view that this is not in order at this time. But I may inform the House that the question was raised by one of the leaders of the parties and I requested him to communicate his wish to me in writing or take the opportunity of raising this question immediately after questions any day. Then it will be a question presented to me and I will have to consider the question to the best of my ability. I have not got the least objection if the leader of a party gives intimation to me beforehand, and I will fix whichever date will be most convenient. I rule that this is out of order."

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Mr. S. ARPUDASWAMI UDAYAR :—"Very well, Sir, I shall raise it on any later occasion as you please."

The motion was accordingly not moved.

Mr. G. HARISARVOTTAMA RAO :—"Mr. President, Sir, I move

'that the allotment of Rs. 1,10,000 for travelling allowances be reduced by Rs. 100.'

"My object is to discuss the reduction of travelling allowance and daily allowance of the Members of this Council to double third-class fare and five rupees a day respectively. I do not desire to make a speech on this subject, and I formally move it, and I know I shall have the vote of this House on my side."

* The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—"Sir, the hon. Member from Kurnool stated that he formally moved it. I could have said that I formally opposed it, but I do not propose to stop there. As a matter of fact, it is pretty obvious that the reduction of the rate of travelling allowances would not conduce to convenience. As it is, we are very often inconveniencing Members coming from the mufassal in many ways, and when other Legislatures tending towards democracy have gone in the direction of payment to Members, to make it a question of double third class and Rs. 5 a day, though it may be a deterrent, will certainly be not helpful in the doing of business in the House. Though Government as such have nothing to do in the matter and leave it to the free vote of the House, I consider, Sir, if I may be allowed to express an opinion in that direction, that a departure in that direction would be inexpedient."

* Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—"I only want to draw attention to the practice obtaining in the Assembly and other legislative bodies where the method of drawing travelling allowance is much simpler than what we have got here at present, a pre-audit and a post audit"

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—"If that be the case, this is not the proper occasion for it. The hon. Member will do well to move his cut separately."

* Diwan Bahadur M. KRISHNAN NAYAR :—"Sir, I am afraid that my Friend, Mr. Harisarvottama Rao, is very optimistic in his conclusion, namely, that the whole House would support him. I am here to oppose him, and I think there will be many others also to side with me. Certainly I have no objection whatever to my hon. Friend imposing a self-denying ordinance on himself and on such of those as would agree with him. He may want to lead an ascetic life but the majority of this House are not prepared to follow him. As a matter of fact Members of the Provincial Councils in India are treated in the matter of travelling and other allowances in a very much worse fashion than the Members of our own Legislative Assembly in Delhi and the Legislative Assemblies in other parts of the world. For instance, in the Legislative Assembly at Delhi, Members receive halting allowances for seven days preceding the day on which the Council meets and also for seven days succeeding the date on which the Council terminates. (A voice : 'Three days only'.) Well, even then, it is seven days preceding and three days succeeding a meeting, and in addition to that, they get haulage allowances for their motor cars. Members of the Legislative Assembly from whichever part of India have the right of drawing haulage charges from the Government of India if they take their motor cars with them. Whether they take their motor cars or not, they have got a daily allowance of Rs. 20

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and also Rs. 5—my hon. Friend, Mr. Schamnad will correct me if I am wrong—for the charge necessary for going to and returning from the Council Chamber. We do not enjoy any such privileges here. Again, Sir, if we compare this Legislative Assembly with the similar Assemblies of the world, we find that practically in all parts of the Empire, in England, Canada, Australia, New Zealand, etc., the Members of the Legislatures are paid very handsome allowances. For instance, in the House of Commons, as my hon. Colleagues know, Members are paid annual allowances of £400 each, and in addition to that they have first-class free passage overseas to and fro. Again, in Canada when the House is sitting, they have what is called a sessional allowance of 4,000 dollars, that is about Rs. 10,000, taking the dollar to be equivalent to Rs. 2½. And then, in addition to this 4,000 dollars, they have free transport not only for themselves but for their wives and families and stenographers, so that they are paid for all the conveniences for themselves and their families. Then again, if we go to the Australian Parliament, the Members there get free railway passes and in addition they have also the privilege of taking lady typists at Government expense. (Laughter.) Then in South Africa there is this additional privilege. So far as the privileges of travelling are concerned, once a Minister always a Minister. That is, a person who has once been a Minister is allowed free railway pass for the rest of his life. (Laughter.) And then, in New Zealand, Sir, the allowance is £450 a year. There is no necessity for us to deprive ourselves of even the small privileges we are now having. I do not want to go into the question of the expenditure which individual Members of this House may be put to. Probably some Members may be able to limit themselves within the amount of the daily and travelling allowances given to them, but I believe there may be other Members also who have to pay for their expenses to some extent out of their own pockets in addition. I do not want to state anything personally. But for these reasons I am not asking for any increase. The question of expenditure depends upon various circumstances. This is not the first time on which this question has been raised in this House. After all, my hon. Friend Sir C. P. Ramaswami Ayyar has, if I may say so, rightly said that he would leave it to the House. That, if I may venture to say so, is the correct attitude for the Government to take. But it seems to me that it would be better for the Government to oppose this motion for this reason; if the Members of this Council are well fed and well clothed and well lodged (laughter), they will be in a very good temper and they are not likely to attack the Government Members. In these circumstances, I hope my hon. Friends in this House would agree with me and vote with me if my hon. Friend presses his motion."

The motion was put and negatived.

The House then adjourned for lunch

After Lunch (2-30 p.m.).

* Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—" Mr. President, Sir, I move

'to reduce the allotment of Rs. 1,10,000 for travelling allowance of members by Rs. 100'

in order to discuss the question of reforming the present dilatory and cumbersome and costly system of drawing travelling allowance.

"I may also say that it is rather an undignified method by which we have to draw our travelling allowance. At present, after we come here, we have

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to prepare the bill, get it endorsed, and wait for it and then we get the amount after some delay. We cannot draw the bill for our return journey unless we go back, then send a bill, and get an endorsement, and there is all that sort of dilatory work. That is not also consistent with the dignity of a Member of this Council. (Hear, hear.) Even a gazetted officer draws a bill without getting an endorsement for it. I never in my life as a gazetted officer drew a bill with an endorsement for my bill. When I come here it is rather humiliating that I should get the endorsement in order to get my bill cashed. I am told that in the Assembly there is a much simpler method which is more consistent with the dignity of the Members of the House. I am sure we do not hold a position less important or less dignified than the Members of the Assembly. I therefore propose that Government should devise some method in consultation with the Accountant-General by which we can draw our travelling allowance quicker and by an easier method. I would propose the method pursued by the Assembly which can be gathered from the hon. Member who has been a Member of the Assembly. There, first of all, as soon as a Member comes to the Assembly he is presumed to have come from the place of his ordinary residence and before he leaves he is presumed to leave for his native place. On that presumption on the last day, or one or two days before that, his bill is drawn for the whole period from the day of his departure until the day of his return to his native place. In that way the matter is simplified. The bill is not sent to the Accountant-General by the Member but it is presented to the Secretary who draws and gives a cheque. That is the procedure followed even in the matter of special committees of the Government of India. When we went to the Taxation Committee or the Civil Justice Committee we had only to present a slip stating the day on which we left the place and returned, and we got at once a cheque both for staying and travelling. It was a very simple procedure. I therefore propose this token motion in order to suggest a more dignified and quicker course for getting the travelling allowance."

* The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—"Mr. President, Sir, the hon. Member from South Kanara will be gratified to learn that Government propose to accept the suggestion of following the example of the Legislative Assembly in this matter. Orders will be issued very shortly."

The motion was by leave withdrawn.

* Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—"I move

'to reduce the allotment of Rs. 5,000 for books and periodicals by Rs. 100', to discuss the election of a Library Committee.

"I only do this, Sir, as a token motion to suggest the necessity and the desirability of appointing a committee to select books. I think this idea of having a library committee has been in contemplation and therefore I do not dilate upon the advantages of having a library committee for the selection of books."

* The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—"It has already been decided by the hon. the President to form a library committee for the selection of books and the leaders of the various parties have been asked to nominate each a member, and Messrs. P. T. Rajan, S. Satyamurti and A. B. Shetty have been appointed to be the members of the committee which will be presided over by the hon. the President. It is expected that the hon. the President will announce that he has come to that conclusion."

The motion was by leave withdrawn.

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* Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—" I move

' to reduce the allotment of Rs. 4,000 for supplies and services by Rs. 100 '

in order to discuss the question regarding the cancellation of the privilege of Members posting letters on service unpaid system. This is a privilege, Sir, we had enjoyed according to the parliamentary privileges in England, where the members have got many other privileges as well, as was mentioned by the hon. Member for Malabar this morning. This one privilege has been cancelled and no reasons have been given why this has been cancelled. If members of Parliament and members of assemblies in America have enjoyed this privilege—I do not know if the privilege of the members of the Assembly has also been cancelled—I do not know why we should be deprived of this privilege of addressing the officials of the Local Government without stamps."

* Diwan Bahadur M. KRISHNAN NAYAR :—" Sir, I agree with my hon. Friend. I do not see the reasons why the Government have cancelled it. We are asked now to pay even for those letters in which we send up resolutions and questions to the Secretary to the Legislative Council. That is how I understand it. The practice till now was that all letters addressed to the Secretaries of Government, including the Secretary to the Legislative Council, were free of postage. Recently we received a circular cancelling that ruling and since then—that is my interpretation—I have been paying even for those letters in which I send the questions and resolutions to the Secretary. Apart from that, we had the privilege of addressing other officers of Government free of postage. That has been recently taken away. I see no adequate reasons. So I propose the desirability of restoring those privileges."

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—" Prior to the issue of G.O. Mis. No. 440, Legislative, dated 9th October 1926, the M.L.C.s had the privilege of following the procedure laid down in clause 357 (2) of the Post and Telegraph Guide whereby letters, post-cards and packets pertaining to affairs of Government superscribed 'Service unpaid' and signed by the Members of Council were accepted by the officers of the Local Government who paid the postage on receipt. In June 1926, in connection with a reference to them on the subject by the United Provinces Government, the Government of India informed this Government that the procedure adopted by the M.L.C.s in Madras was wrong and was due to a misapprehension underlying clause 357(2) of the Guide. With a view to making the position clearer the Government of India have amended the clause. In their letter the Government of India also stated that they did not wish to encourage the extension of the privilege of sending service unpaid communications to cases which are clearly beyond the intention of the rule. It is really under the orders of the Government of India and it applies to the whole of India."

* Mr. S. MUTTAYYA MUDALIYAR :—" Mr. President, Sir, the hon. the Law Member has explained and I think under the rules he is perfectly right. But may I suggest to the Madras Government and the hon. the Law Member that service stamps may be issued to members periodically once a month, so that it may enable the members to send their letters?"

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—" That matter has not been raised till now and I wish to consider that. Even there we cannot act without advertence to the Government of India because post and telegraph facilities are Central subjects. I shall bear this in mind."

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* Mr. S. MUTTAYYA MUDALIYAR :—" Will you allow me to explain myself ?"

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" I am sorry the rules do not permit a second speech by non-official Members "

The motion was put and carried.

*Sriman BISWANATH DAS Mahasaya :—" I move

' to reduce the allotment of Rs. 1,85,800 for Provincial Legislative Council by Rs. 100.'

In so doing, I want to bring before the House the necessity of having elected members for the standing advisory committees that we have for certain departments and to suggest also the necessity of having standing advisory committees for other reserved departments for which we have not at present standing committees. Sir, the famous declaration of August 1917 regarding the progressive realization of self-government contemplates the necessity of educating Indians in the matter of administration. To realize this idea the Montford Report in paragraph 235 laid down : 'Our next proposal is interded to familiarize the other elected members of the Legislative Council, besides Ministers, with the process of administration and also to make the relations between the executive and the legislature more intimate. We propose that to each department whether it is placed with the Executive Council or the Minister there should be attached a standing committee elected by the Legislative Council from among their own members.' Sir, this recommendation of the Montford Report was referred to the Government of India who thereupon, with the opinion of the various Provincial Governments, have discussed the matter in their first despatch of March 1919. Sir, I now refer hon. Members to the first despatch that was sent from Delhi on the 5th March 1919 wherein the Government of India definitely accepted these recommendations. I beg to quote an extract from that :

'The first of these is the proposal to establish Standing committees elected by and from the Legislature, to the departments under each Member of the Executive Council. I think that such committees would be purely advisory and will ordinarily be consulted on questions of policy or new schemes of large expenditure and on annual reports. The majority of Provincial Governments accepted the proposal. We propose to retain them.'

2-45
p m.

"Sir, having accepted the proposal of the Montford Report, various Provincial Governments, such as Bombay, Bihar and Orissa, etc., after the inauguration of the Reforms, are having elected standing advisory committees for various departments. Unfortunately, however, the Government of Madras have not at all accepted this suggestion so far as the Reserved part of the Government is concerned, I believe, except the Forest department. The Ministers, on the other hand, took the very unsatisfactory course of constituting advisory committees nominated by the Ministers themselves. I take it, Sir, that it is wrong in principle to have nominated Members to these advisory committees which have been meant to deal with matters of policy, such important questions as administration reports and big items of expenditure. I therefore appeal to the Members of the Treasury Bench to accept this proposal to have advisory committees for all departments, be they under the Ministers or under the Executive Councillors, for training the Members of this honourable House in matters of administration, and secondly request them to leave these committees open for election. I once again Sir, the new Ministers after having taken charge of their departments, have nominated members for these standing committees. We have been

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approached and I thank them for their kindness to accept offices under their patronage, and we need hardly mention here that we have refused such offers. I therefore appeal to the hon. the Ministers, as well as the Executive Councillors, to accept the principle and I may tell them that unless they accept it we will be justified not only in passing this motion, but also in throwing out the resolution that is shortly to be moved by the hon. Mr. Moir to elect members to the Standing Committee on Finance. With these words, I move the motion that stands in my name."

* Mr. G. HARISARVOTTAMA RAO :—" Mr. President, Sir, to my mind, this is a very small matter. But yet, I feel that it is a matter that tests the Executive side of this House. This morning we heard from the Executive side that when they have to give an opinion about the Reforms once again, they would take what all was said in this House into consideration and would do all that they could to make progress possible. That was how I understood the speech of the hon. the Revenue Member. These advisory committees have been there all along all these six years and more, and the Government in this province has not made any move to improve the working of the Reforms in this Presidency by making at least these advisory committees elective. These advisory committees are elsewhere elected. Why they should not have been elected in this Presidency long ago I cannot understand. There must have been something very materially wrong that the progress with the Reforms here was otherwise. I should have expected this reform to have been achieved long, long ago.

" With regard to the Ministers, I fail to understand what their psychology is. This year when they got into power, it was open to them to put this through very easily. It was open to them to say 'we shall have these advisory committees elected by the House'. They have not said so. So, both the sections of the Members sitting on the Treasury Bench have been practically neglecting their duty in regard to this matter. May I not ask them, Sir, if they are sincere in the professions that they are making, if it is not time—surely I think it is high time—according to them to get provincial autonomy, whether the representatives of the people of this poor Presidency, after these six long years of work in behalf of the reformed Council, whether all of us do not deserve this small mercy from the hands of the bureaucrats that are now ruling us. I do not believe there is much to be said on this point. I do not desire to make quotations from authorities. It is a very small matter, and if in this the bureaucracy is unyielding, it shows the way in which the wind blows."

* Diwan Bahadur M. KRISHNAN NAYAR :—" I think, Sir, the motion runs on very sound lines, and as a matter of fact there are advisory committees in some departments which are under the administration of the Ministers now, and, so far as I know, the Forest department is the only department which is under the control of a member of the Reserved side and that in which there is an advisory committee. Practically, these advisory committees' advice is accepted by the Minister or by the Member in charge when the advice is agreeable; when the advice is disagreeable or is not acceptable, it is brushed aside because it is only the advice of an advisory committee. Now, that may be the case even if the members of the advisory committee are elected. But there will be some difference between the weight that should be attached to the opinion of an elected advisory committee and the weight attached to the opinion of a nominated advisory

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committee. To take one example, there is a Standing Advisory Committee of this Council to the Finance Department of the Government. That Committee is composed partly of elected members and partly of nominated members. I believe the number of elected members preponderates. The opinion of that Committee also is merely to advise the Finance Member, which he is not bound to accept. But we know from personal experience that the opinion of the Standing Committee on Finance is regarded with far more weight than the opinion of any other advisory committee which is formed to advise a Minister or a Member of Government. So that it seems to me that when advisory committees, in which all the members are elected, or in any case the majority of the members are elected, are formed to advise the Members of Government, that will certainly be an improvement on the existing state of affairs. So, I think, my hon. Friend's motion should be supported."

* Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—" Very recently we had the curious phenomenon of the hon. the Ministers inviting several members on this side to be members of the advisory committees. That was quite laudable on their part (laughter). If they had only done it by asking the House to elect the members, that would have been far better. The question was whether it was consistent with the dignity of those sitting on the Opposition, and also for that Opposition on this side to accept positions in the advisory committees constituted by the Ministers themselves. I think it would be conducive to the improvement and efficiency of their own administration, by being in touch with the different phases of thought of the different parties, for the hon. Members of the Executive Council as well as also the Ministers to have these advisory committees elected by the Members of this House. With these words, I support the motion."

* 'The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—" Mr. President, Sir, my hon. Friend the Member for Ganjam already referred to the paragraph in the Montagu-Chelmsford Report which deals with the projected function of the standing committees. They stated in that report that these committees should be elected by the Legislative Council and they propose that a committee should be attached to certain departments or groups of departments, whether those departments were placed under Members of the Executive Council or the Ministers, and the committees were contemplated as merely advisory, and in the language of the report 'they are not to have any administrative control in the departments'. Again, in their own language, questions of policy, new schemes involving expenditure and administration reports should be placed before them. The only committees in this Presidency which are elected by the Legislative Council are the Standing Finance Committee and the Public Accounts Committee. The question of appointing other committees was considered by Government in 1921, and the decision arrived at was that a standing committee may be appointed by Government whenever a Member or a Minister wanted it for any department in his charge. In accordance with that decision, standing committees have been formed from time to time. No doubt, they have been till now nominated by the various Members or Ministers from various sections of the House. I take it that the hon. Member who has moved this motion is in favour of the constitution of committees analogous in composition to the Standing Finance Committee and the Public Accounts Committee. So far as the Transferred Half of this

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Government is concerned, prior to the constitution of the new Council, the department appears to have had an advisory committee, and with the formation of the new Council I am told that fresh committees are being constituted. So far as the Reserved Half is concerned, the following committees have been formed: the Finance Committee, an Advisory Committee for the Forest department and a Depressed Classes Committee. That is so far as the history of this question is concerned. It will be remembered that the Standing Committees have got the functions which I have already enumerated before this House, and, in regard to this motion, I am perfectly prepared to take the vote of the House and to undertake that the collective Government will consider the suggestion with a view to acting."

The motion was put and carried.

* Mr. J. A. SALDANHA:—"Sir, I propose

'to reduce the allotment of Rs. 1,85,800 for Provincial Legislative Council by Rs. 100'

with a view to reform the manner of speaking in the House so as to be more audible to a majority of Members and to provide a platform for speakers, etc. Sir, the acoustic properties of this House are notoriously bad. We feel a sensation of sinking, as it were, when we begin to speak in this House. (The hon. Sir C. P. Ramaswami Ayyar: Question) We feel our voices are 3 p.m. drowned by some sort of echo from above and from all sides, and the effect of it is worsened by the hon. Members addressing the Chair, and addressing the Chair in a form as if he were a judge of the High Court, because every Member has to address the Chair and the Chair alone. The effect of this is made more ridiculous by some Members putting up their legs, and addressing the Chair as if he were a judge sitting in a Court of Justice."

* The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR:—"I did not know that it was either necessary, or a concomitant of being in a Court of law, to put up your leg." (Laughter)

* Mr. J. A. SALDANHA:—"Personally, as a judicial officer, I was very much against this practice (laughter). Somehow or other, this sort of courtesy or discourtesy is allowed even in the High Court. Members of this Council, who have been pleaders, may like that practice, because they are accustomed to it all their lifetime when addressing a judge of the High Court. Back-benchers however find it very hard to hear the speeches from the front bench. I have myself experienced very great difficulty; I have to strain my ear to catch their words, and straining one's ear is not pleasant, and sometimes we go to sleep in trying to be more attentive. Of course, there is a history behind it. We follow the practice of the House of Commons, which my hon. Friend the Member for the University the other day called the Mother of Parliaments. This practice has been followed in the English-speaking countries, but it is not at all followed in most countries where there are parliamentary institutions, and for good reason. The President of the British Parliament is called the Speaker, because in former times he was the real spokesman to the King; he collected the quintessence of the speeches and carried them to the presence of the King."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT:—"I was carefully listening to the speech of the hon. Member to find out if it had anything to do with the subject matter he has given notice of. He is speaking as to how the business of the House is to be carried. I think that is a matter for the Standing Orders,

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and I should like to know from the hon. Member how his speech is relevant to any budget debate before I rule it out of order."

* Mr. J. A. SAIDANHA :—"I am leading to the point that Government should provide a platform for which some expenditure may be necessary. I will not call it by the grand names of tribune, or rostrum, or pulpit. What I want to propose is simply a platform by the side of the President from which Members if they prefer it can go and address. There are Members who think that they ought to speak from a higher place instead of from below the gangway. The convenience of addressing from a platform will be very great. The speech will be heard distinctly and the address will have dignity about it. The present practice is based upon the old antiquated idea that the President was Mr. Speaker. I may point out our President is not Mr. Speaker at all; our President is the Presiding agent of the Council; he is the Chairman and therefore we address the Chair. Therefore, from a platform it would be more convenient to address the House, the speaker will be heard distinctly and the proceedings will be more lively and not so painful as it sometimes is when it is not heard."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—"Standing Order No. 23 says: 'A member desiring to make any observations on any matter before this Council shall speak from his place,' etc. As long as the Standing Order is there which can be amended by the Council, I do not think the speech of the hon. Member is in order."

* Mr. S. MUTTAYYA MUDALIYAR : -

'To reduce the allotment of Rs. 1,85,800 for Provincial Legislative Council by Rs. 100.' (To discuss the hours of sitting of the Legislative Council).

"Mr. President, Sir, as it is, we are sitting from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. with an interval of one hour for lunch, i.e., for five hours. I wish to propose that instead of sitting from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. we shall sit from 2-30 p.m. to 7-30 p.m. and do the five hours work. I may tell you, Mr. President, the House of Commons and the House of Lords sit from 2-30 p.m. in the evening till 11-45 p.m., i.e., for nine hours, with no interval whatever for dinner or tea. Only between 7-30 p.m. and 8-30 p.m. no votes will be taken."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—"This is also a matter that has to be controlled by the Standing Orders. Standing Order 4 says: 'While in session the Council shall ordinarily sit at 11 o'clock.' I wish to know how the Government is responsible for the sitting hours of the House. It is a matter for the House to decide as to when they should sit. Before I rule you out of order I should like to know how the Government is responsible for the sitting of the Council at 11 o'clock or at 2-30 p.m."

* Mr. S. MUTTAYYA MUDALIYAR :—"The hon. the Law Member, the Leader of the House, as the chief executive officer of the Government, could move an amendment to the Standing Orders. This may be taken as a suggestion to the Member of Government who is the Leader of the House."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—"The hon. the Leader of the House is really the person that is generally expected to move the amendments to the Standing Orders. But in this House the practice is otherwise. And if he moves an amendment to the Standing Orders, I do not believe he moves it as a Member of the Government but as the Leader of the House. I am not able to see how this is in order."

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* Rao Bahadur C. S. RATNASABAPATHI MUDALIYAR :—" May I rise to a point of order. I wish to know whether motions which are not consistent with the rules and regulations under the Act and which are against Standing Orders can be included at all in the agenda. We have already wasted more than 10 or 15 minutes on such irrelevant motions."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" As regards the point of order raised by Mr. Ratnasabapathi Mudaliyar, I have got the question examined. The President has got the power of disallowing questions by rules and standing orders; he has got the power of disallowing resolutions by rules and standing orders, but he has not the power vested in him to disallow motions not only regarding budget but even regarding Bills. He has only to pass orders, whether they are in order, in the Council when the point of order is raised."

* Mr. S. MUTTAYYA MUDALIYAR :—" As regards the point of order with regard to my motion, I wish to submit to your consideration, Mr. President that the hon. the Law Member, the Leader of the House, is the chief executive officer of Government. It is in his capacity as First Member of Council, and not because he is a Member of the House, that he is the Leader of the House. So any suggestion to the hon. the Law Member is a suggestion to the Government.

" Mr. President, I wish to suggest that the Council may sit between 2-30 p.m. and 7-30 p.m. and I am perfectly sure most of the Members in the Madras City and the Members on the Treasury Bench will fall in with my suggestion. It will be convenient to Members of Government to perform their official duties in the forenoon before 1-30 p.m. and come here at 2-30 p.m. and attend diligently to the proceedings here. As regards Members of the commercial community, they will appreciate it very much, because they can attend to their transactions in the mornings, and to the Members of the profession to which I belong and who happen to be in Madras, I think they would also to a certain extent relish it. As regards Members of the mufassal, I am perfectly sure such of them as are not professional men, and such of them as are landowners and employers of labour would like it because they are accustomed to take late meals and their digestion is apt to be disturbed by coming here at 11 o'clock. Thus my suggestion will conduce to the convenience of all Members. The Members of the Treasury Bench may perhaps not like it on the ground of some rise in electric charges. But I do not think that will be an objection. My suggestion will meet the convenience of the House better and be more in conformity with parliamentary practice. There is also another convenience. It will give ample time to Members to go to the library and have the necessary papers and study them and proceed with their work in the Council more expeditiously. I suggest for these reasons that the Council may sit between 2-30 and 7-30 p.m."

* Mr. R. SRINIVASA AYYANGAR :—" Sir, I very much regret I have to oppose this motion. It may be more convenient to the City Members—I do not attribute motives—who want to attend to their other work till about that time and go over here leisurely as it suits them, spend a few hours here and then go home. If I understand the mover of this motion aright, he said that this was likely to give relief to the Members of the Executive Council. Does he really expect them to go to office at 11 o'clock, attend to their business and then come over here to receive the attacks to be made against

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them? On the other hand, it will throw an extra amount of work on them, because they will have to sit from 11 a.m. to 7-30 p.m. Moreover, the hon. Member also said that we would be better fit to start the work at 2-30 p.m. and it would not interfere with our digestion. As for that matter, from personal experience I cannot accept it myself. It seems to me that the work when commenced at 11 o'clock will be far more acceptable, as we may bring to bear upon our work more vigour and energy than at 2-30 p.m. I do not think it is possible for us to command at 2-30 p.m. that energy and vigour which we have at 11 o'clock. As a matter of fact, all courts and institutions all the world over commence their work at 11 o'clock when we are in excellent spirits.

8-15
P.m.

"What about the mufassal? The mufassalites, so far as this Council is concerned, are about 100 strong. Are we to waste the whole of our time till 2-30 p.m., there after attend the Council and go home after 7-30 p.m. denying ourselves the recreations of the evening and even the sea-breeze? On every ground, utilitarian, economic or even hygienic, I am sorry I am unable to agree with my hon. Friend Mr. S. Muttayya Mudaliyar."

Mr. RAMANATHA GOENKA:—"Sir, I must support the proposal of Mr. S. Muttayya Mudaliyar, not because I am not against the convenience of the mufassal Members, but because I am a business man and, on behalf of the business community, I say that the assembling of the Council at 2-30 p.m. will be most suitable to the business community. We can look after our business from 10 a.m. to 2-30 p.m. and attend the Council at 2-30 p.m. It will not interfere with our business also. I may point out that many of the European Members of this Council do not attend the Council properly because they have to look to other business in the Council time. I may point out, also, if I am correctly informed, that the Bengal Council sits at 2-30 p.m. only. In the Bengal Council there are Members from the mufassal also. So, I think the Members of the mufassal, for the convenience of the Members of the city, will kindly consent to the sitting of the Council at 2-30 p.m. instead of at 11 a.m. which causes them a great deal of inconvenience. I hope the mufassal Members will put up with a little inconvenience for the sake of the Members of the city belonging to the business community and will agree to the proposal."

* Diwan Bahadur M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—"Sir, it seems to me it is a question of mufassal versus the city (laughter) and as one coming from the mufassal I certainly take my place among my Friends coming from the mufassal. I oppose this motion. My Friend there said that the Bengal Council sits at half-past two. It may be so or it may not be so. (Mr. Ramanatha Goenka. It is so.) If it is so, it is a bad example (laughter). Let us not follow it. I hope in course of time Bengal will follow our example. It is not for the first time that this question is raised. This question was raised first in the first year of this Council and the Council came to the conclusion that the existing practice, which is sanctioned by the Standing orders, should be continued.

"Sir, the Mover and Mr. Goenka said that we might begin our sitting at 2-30 p.m. and continue till 7-30 p.m. and quoted the practice in the House of Commons. Why not my hon. Friend follow the example of the House of Commons in the matter of the duration of the sittings? The House of Commons sits till 11 o'clock in the night. Why not he make that

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suggestion? Probably it is not agreeable to him. He cut a slice out of the practice of the House of Commons and, to suit his convenience, suggested its adoption in our Council. We the mufassal Members can now attend the Council at 11 a.m. and enjoy the open air in the evenings. If we are to begin our work at 2-30 p.m., the hottest and most inconvenient part of the day, I think it will be highly difficult and uncomfortable for Members living in Mylapore, Adyar, Cosmopolitan Club, etc., to ride over here in the hot sun. I very much doubt how the proposed change will add to the convenience and comforts of the businessmen. I suggest therefore the continuance of the present practice."

Mr. B. Venkataratnam (spoke in Telugu opposing the motion).

* Mr. S. SATYAMURTI:—"This is not a party question so far as we are concerned. But at the same time I regret that my Friend, Diwan Bahadur M. Krishnan Nayar, should have with his usual cleverness tried to give a twist to this question as if there is a necessary conflict of interests between the mufassal and Madras Members in these matters. Once that is introduced I know the result. Because, naturally, human nature being what it is, what one party thinks is likely to be of undue advantage to the other, it resists. My hon. Friend has played up to the weakest part in human nature. I do appeal to my hon. Friends from the mufassal not to look at it from that point of view. Does this motion add one hour to the stay of the mufassalites in Madras? Does it take away one pie from their travelling allowance even if incidentally it is of some advantage to the Madras Members? Is it to be a reason why we should vote it down?"

"Reference has been made to the practice of the House of Commons. I may also mention, Mr. President, that in Bombay and Calcutta the House meets only in the afternoon. It does not meet in the morning. The Assembly at Delhi alone meets in the morning. Some of my friends have said that they do not like to sacrifice club life. Sir, under your distinguished auspices, I hope this House will become very soon, what the House of Commons is well-reputed to be in London, the best social club in Madras. We would then have fine lunch rooms, etc.; it would be possible also for Members to go out and come here in time for divisions. There is a standing rule in the House of Commons that between 8 and 9 p.m., the dinner hour, no division shall be called. We can make a similar arrangement. We can agree that between 5-30 and 6-30 p.m. for example, this House may go on with as many Members as are necessary for a quorum allowing the rest to enjoy the evening. But I may plead with the mufassalites that they can do committee work in the mornings and attend to the Council in the afternoons and finish their work before the time allotted for their stay in Madras is over. I suggest that by agreeing to this practice the mufassalites lose nothing whatever. (A voice: 'Health'). My hon. Friend says 'Health'. We have accepted John Bull's hours of business, Mr. President, as one of the dispensations of Providence. He gets up at 7, breakfasts at 10, has his tea at 4 and takes his dinner at 8. But it is not suited to us. Our business takes us till 11 or 12 a.m. for breakfast. I appeal to the mufassal Members whether in their own homes they breakfast earlier than 11 a.m. or 12 noon. Why on earth should you adopt John Bull's hours of business? Why not adopt the system of an afternoon siesta after having a full meal and a nap between 1 and 2 which is the glory and luxury of Orientals? (Laughter). Nerves and tempers will have no place then and you can do your business in

[Mr. S. Satyamurti]

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a pleasant way. I do plead with the mufassalites to take a human view. If Mr. Muttayya Mudaliyar makes some money at the bar, why should you grudge it? (Laughter). We ought to have here men at the top of the profession in every branch. Men like Sir John Simon and Lord Oxford could not have become Members of the House of Commons if the Commons sat during business hours. You would never have in the Council men at the top of the professions, whether legal or mercantile, if you do not sit in the evenings only. I do ask for a human view of the question."

Mr. K. KOTI REDDI:—"Coming from the mufassal I should like to express my own opinion in the matter. It seems to me that there is a difference of opinion among mufassal Members. I really feel that the suggestion of Mr. Muttayya Mudaliyar to have Council meeting between 2-30 and 7-30 p.m. is quite convenient for the mufassal Members also. (Cries of: 'Hear, hear'). One thing I feel with regard to the hours of sitting is this: I believe if we are to sit at 2-30 p.m. we will have ample time in the morning to study questions that are likely to be debated. Usually, Sir, in the evenings we go to the beach and have no time to study the subjects coming up on the next day. If the Council sits at 2-30 p.m. we will be able to study the questions coming up and do better work than now. This is an advantage which I believe even the mufassal Members ought not to disregard.

"Secondly, Sir, this arrangement would not be against the interests of the Government also. Members of Government can devote their forenoon entirely to their departmental work and can thus avoid piling up of papers on the desk here. Personally, I feel it very difficult to be present here at 10 o'clock taking my meal before that. Further it leaves very little time to study the questions properly.

"Some hon. Member, I think, seems to have expressed a doubt whether if the hours of sitting are likely to be changed, he would be able to leave Madras the very day on which the Council adjourns. (Mr. S. Satyamurti: 'We can adjourn the Council in the evening of that particular day'). I have considered that question. As the Deputy Leader points out, if the change is not likely to be detrimental to the mufassal Members, I do not see why we should disregard the wishes of the Members of the city. In view of the fact that more and more people from Madras are likely to represent mufassal constituencies I really do not see why, as Mr. Satyamurti puts it, men who are in the business or in the legal or other professions, should not be enabled to come and do legislative duty also. I believe therefore that there will be no conflict of interests between the mufassal and the city."

* Mr. K. R. KARANT:—"Sir, I think that if this motion had come not from a Madrasee but from a mufassal Member, it would have received greater support. It seems to me that because it has come from a Member from Madras, some Members are opposing it. (Cries of 'No, no'). I come from the mufassal and I feel that it would be very much better for us to sit in the afternoons. I have been trying for the last two or three days to read an Act and I have not found time to read anything in the Library. I believe that the new practice would be a very great help to us. (Mr. S. Satyamurti: 'Hear, hear'). But I wish that for the convenience of mufassal Members, on the last day of a Session the House might rise a little earlier."

3-30
p.m.

* The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR:—"Mr. President, Sir, this is a matter which, as has been stated by more than one hon. Member, is essentially for decision by the vote of the House. I am however glad to say

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that this House, at all events certain number of members of this House, take a different view from that which was taken by the House on a previous occasion when I think, Mr. Thanikaachalam Chettiyar introduced a motion. Also it gives me a little satisfaction for another reason. I was concerned with the framing of the rules as soon as the Reforms scheme came into operation in this province. The Madras Government appointed a non-official committee on which I was also a member. I being a member of the bar at that time, put forward a similar suggestion that the House may sit in the afternoon which was turned down somewhat unceremoniously by my learned and very good friends, Messrs. Subbarayalu Reddiyar, Ramachandra Rao and, I think, Sir, yourself also (Laughter). Leaving these personal reminiscences aside, the following statement gives the hours of sittings of the Legislative Assembly and the Legislative Councils of the various provinces. The Legislative Assembly begins at 11 a.m., but the hour of closing is not certain. It sits up to 5 or 5-30 p.m., and to my knowledge recently it sat on one occasion up to 7 p.m. The Bengal Council sits at 3 p.m., and goes up to 6 or 7 p.m. In Bombay it is between 2 to 5 or 6 p.m. In Bihar and Orissa it is between 11 a.m. and 5 p.m. In Assam again it is between 11 a.m. and 5 p.m. The Central Provinces Council sits between 12 noon and 5 p.m. The Burma Council sits between 11 a.m. and 5 p.m. In the Punjab it is between 2 to 6 or 7 p.m. This shows the hours in which business is transacted in other Councils. There is no uniformity of rule. It is entirely for the House to decide which is more convenient."

Mr. P. ANJANEYULU:—"Mr President, Sir, I think that most of the mufassal members should not oppose this motion for many reasons. The chief reason is that the best men in Madras whether lawyers or businessmen should be enabled to attend the meetings without any inconvenience. It is up to the mufassal members to respond unreservedly to the request of the Madras members that the meeting may be held during the hours mentioned by Mr. Muttayya Mudaliyar."

The hon. Sir. C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR:—"Sir, I should like just to correct a mistake in the statement which I just made. The Legislative Assembly commences its sittings every day at 11 a.m. and ordinarily terminates at 4 p.m."

Mr. P. ANJANEYULU:—"As far as I can see, except it be the sentimental objection or the usual aversion of Indians to any change, I do not see that the mufassal members will be in any way inconvenienced by the change. At any rate, it is the case with me and a certain number of friends of mine here. Even if that be so, I would earnestly request them to respond to the desires of the Madras members. We often accuse the bureaucracy of not responding to our desires. When we are asked a small request, it is up to us to grant it without discussing about it.

"From the point of view of health it is very good to take a walk in the beach in the morning, go home and have a good bath and a meal and then come here in time to use the library—I do not know how many of my mufassal members use the library—and then be ready for the meeting at 2-30 p.m. I think that will be the most suitable arrangement and I heartily support the motion."

* Mr. T. ADINARAYANA CHETTIYAR:—"Sir, as a mufassalite, I have great pleasure in supporting this motion. It is a common experience, at least

[Mr. T. Adinarayana Chettiyar]

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of mine, that we cannot be very active, especially intellectually, immediately after a meal. We generally take our meal in a hurry, in the morning at an early hour and without taking rest come here and feel drowsy. (A voice: Angry also) I do not generally get angry. We are expected to be here half an hour before eleven for studying the questions and answers. We are hardly able to come here in time, not to speak of half an hour earlier. Therefore, we have not been able to put supplemental questions properly. I wish to state another small experience of mine. All the offices, banks and firms open at about 10 o'clock in the morning. I have been unable for the last four or five days to transact some private business in the bank since I have been obliged to be here during the banking hours. Other consequences await us, if we fail to be here and I do not want to mention them. My friend, Mr. Satyamurti, with his usual eloquence cried down our slavish imitation of English habits. I may tell him that the French nation order their things much better. In Pondicherry and in all the French colonies, the meetings are held in the afternoon. If the work cannot be finished in the afternoon, a morning session will be held. The offices and the courts also work in these hours. As regards the mufassal members, they are here for good during a session and they cannot get out of the place. It does not matter when they come here and when they do not come. But if the forenoon is left free for themselves, they can transact their own business and then come here in time for using the library and studying the questions and answers. I want to mention one other matter also. In spite of the best efforts of the House Committee, there is sometimes cause for complaint against the tiffin supplied here and one would rather like to have his homely food. If the Council were to begin at 2 or 2-30 p.m. we have not only the breakfast but also our lunch and have here only a cup of tea in the evening. For these reasons—very material reasons no doubt—I hope the House will vote for the motion."

Mr. G. HARISARVOTTAMA RAO.—"I move, Sir, that the question be now put."

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN.—"I second it."

The closure motion was put to the House and carried.

The question that the allotment of Rs. 1,85,800 for the Provincial Legislative Council be reduced by Rs. 100 was put to the House and declared lost. A poll was demanded and the House divided as follows:—

Ayes.

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| 1. Mr. Balakrishna Shetti. | 17. Mr. C. S. Govindaraja Mudaliyar. |
| 2. " V. Ch. John. | 18. " G. Harisarvottama Rao. |
| 3. " Al. Ar. Narayanan Chettiyar. | 19. " Abdul Hameed Khan. |
| 4. " C. R. Parthasarathi Ayyangar. | 20. " D. Narayana Raju. |
| 5. " Ramanatha Goenka. | 21. " M. Narayana Rao. |
| 6. " T. C. Srinivasa Ayyangar. | 22. Dr. B. S. Mallayya. |
| 7. " Chavadi K. Subrahmanya Pillai. | 23. Mr. J. A. Saldanha. |
| 8. " D. Thomas. | 24. " Parasurama Rao Pantulu. |
| 9. " K. R. Venkatarama Ayyar. | 25. " K. R. Karant. |
| 10. " Sami Venkatachalam Chetti. | 26. " C. Venkatarangam Nayudu. |
| 11. " S. Satyamurti. | 27. " M. A. Manikkavelu Nayakar. |
| 12. " T. Adinarayana Chettiyar. | 28. Khan Bahadur S. K. Abdul Razack Sahib Bahadur. |
| 13. " P. Anjaneyulu. | 29. T. M. Moidoo Sahib Bahadur. |
| 14. " K. Koti Reddi. | 30. Rao Bahadur B. Muniswami Nayudu. |
| 15. " S. Mutayya Mudaliyar. | |
| 16. " P. C. Venkatapati Raju. | |

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Noes.

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| 1. The hon. Sir C. P. Ramaswami Ayyar. | 27. Rao Sahib P. V. S. Sundaramurti Pillai. |
| 2. " Mr. N. E. Marjoribanks. | 28. Mr. S. Venkayya. |
| 3. " Khan Bahadur Muzammad Usman Sahib Bahadur. | 29. " K. Krishnan. |
| 4. " Mr. T. E. Moir. | 30. " S. Arpudaswami Udayar. |
| 5. " Diwan Bahadur R. N. Arogyaswami Mudaliyar. | 31. Zamindar of Gollapalli. |
| 6. " Mr. A. Ranganatha Mudaliyar. | 32. Mr. G. R. Premayya. |
| 7. " Dr. P. Subbarayan. | 33. Swami Sahajananda. |
| 8. Mr. T. R. Venkatarama Sastriyar. | 34. Rao Sahib R. Srinivasan. |
| 9. " J. F. Hall. | 35. Mr. C. V. Venkataramana Ayyangar. |
| 10. " P. L. Moore. | 36. " K. V. R. Swami. |
| 11. " H. Tireman. | 37. K. P. V. S. Muhammad Meera Ravuttar. |
| 12. " G. T. Boag. | 38. K. Uppi Sahib Bahadur. |
| 13. " V. Pandrang Rao. | 39. Mr. C. Obi Reddi. |
| 14. " S. H. Slater. | 40. Nriman Biswanath Das Mahasayo. |
| 15. " C. B. Cottrell. | 41. Mr. R. Srinivasa Ayyangar. |
| 16. Khan Bahadur Muhammad Buzl-ul-lah Sahib Bahadur. | 42. Nattam Dubash Kadir -ahib Syed Ibrahim Sahib Bahadur. |
| 17. Mr. Wahab Sahib. | 43. Mr. K. S. Sivasubrahmanya Ayyar. |
| 18. Abbas Ali Khan Bahadur. | 44. " L. K. Tulasiram. |
| 19. Mr. C. D. Appavu Chettiyar. | 45. " K. Madhavan Nayar. |
| 20. " J. Bheemayya. | 46. " B. Venkataratnam. |
| 21. " R. Nagan Gowda. | 47. " C. Gopala Menon. |
| 22. Subdar Major S. A. Nanjappa Bahadur. | 48. Diwan Bahadur M. Krishnan Nayar. |
| 23. Mr. N. Siva Raj. | 49. Mr. T. K. Chidambaranatha Mudaliyar. |
| 24. " M. V. Gangadara Siva. | 50. " S. N. Dorai Raja. |
| 25. " W. P. A. Soundarapandiya Nadar. | 51. Zamindar of Mirzapuram. |
| 26. " S. Subrahmanya Mooppanar. | 52. Mr. J. Kuppuswami. |

Ayes 30. Noes 52.

The motion was lost.

Mr. K. KOTI REDDI :—" I move

'that the allotment of Rs. 10,000 for elections be reduced by Rs. 100'

"I want to raise the question of the necessity for devising a system to ensure secrecy of the ballot amongst the illiterate voters. All the benefits conferred on the people by endowing them with the right of voting for the various bodies constituted under the Reforms scheme—if they are really benefits—are taken away by the illiteracy of the voters in this country.

"It is a fact that is quite known to us that most of the voters are illiterate and that the present system has a number of disadvantages. If it is a question of disadvantages only, I will not press the point very much, but the matter goes deeper than that. As a matter of fact, owing to various circumstances, most of the illiterate voters are not really in a position to exercise their vote freely, because they have to proclaim openly before the polling officers as to which of the candidates they have to vote. Not only that. The voters are put to a lot of unnecessary trouble and enimical feelings have risen on account of their open declaration before the polling officers. When a number of candidates want the vote of a particular elector, naturally all sorts of influences are brought to bear upon him. On account of such influence and on account of the fact that the voter has to openly declare to whom he wishes to vote, he has to give his vote to people to whom he would not have given it if the system was different. This is my experience and I think it is the experience of a number of members here. The literate voters are asked to declare that they are illiterate and that they cannot mark the votes properly. Then they are asked to declare openly for whom they would vote. If a candidate is sure that a literate voter would vote for him, he asks him to do so. On the other hand, if the candidate is suspicious that a literate voter

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would not vote for him he says to the voter 'you must go to the polling officer and say that you do not know how to vote and ask the polling officer to mark the votes, this system may be advantageous to some people who exercise their influence in many ways. But in the interest of the voters and of democracy in this country I think it would not be proper if the Government are not in a position to devise a scheme by which the secrecy of the ballot is maintained even with regard to illiterate voters. It is not difficult to devise a system of colouring boxes in various ways or of representing the candidates on the ballot paper by some symbols or animals, horse, ass, (laughter), etc., so that the voter may know to whom he has to vote. It is not for me to suggest the ways. It is very easy to devise a scheme to safeguard the secrecy of even the votes of the illiterate electors. I am told that such a system exists in Bombay and in other places. In the mufassal it is my experience that many of the voters during the last general elections, wanted to get rid of the trouble of exercising the franchise, because they have to promise some candidates and vote for others on account of all sorts of influence brought to bear upon them. They do not want to go to the polling station and incur trouble. If the secrecy of the ballot even with regard to illiterate voters is maintained, there would be no difficulty at all.

"The second point I wish to discuss is with regard to the amount of deposit. It is also necessary that the amount of the deposit should be raised. The present sum is Rs. 250. It is not enough. Of course some hon. Members might object to this proposal which will not be in the interests of poor people. But I wish to point out that there was one gentleman who contested for a seat and got 126 votes out of 14,000 votes. I think that his deposit was forfeited. There are considerations which induce some candidates to contest seats not in the hope that they can get into the Council but because they are interested in other candidates. Since it is only a question of Rs. 250, such candidates ask others to pay the deposit. Some candidates set up others because by so doing, they would be in a better position. We ought not to give room to this and the only way to do so is to raise the deposit sufficiently high as to make a candidate think twice before he stands for a constituency because he would have to forfeit a large sum. With these words I move the motion standing against my name."

* The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—"Sir, during a debate on the floor of the House, the suggestion was made that what is called the Bombay system should be introduced. That suggestion was conveyed to the Government just about a month and a half before the last elections and we had no time to put those regulations into effect. The Bombay system is assigning either a symbol or an animal to each candidate. The choice of the particular animal referred to by my hon. Friend did not arise. But complaints have been heard from Bombay that the choice of particular animals gave rise to embarrassment and certain difficulties. So also with regard to symbols. Colours were then recommended. Then again it was found, according to the experience of one Local Government, that the illiterate voters were not able to differentiate between the different shades of colours. If there are six or seven candidates there will be much difficulty. However, the instructions that were sent on the 10th July were these :

'It was represented to the Government that the existing system was unsatisfactory as it enabled some influential candidates or their agents to interfere in the exercise of the franchise by illiterate voters and as it did not enable their voting to be kept secret, and the question

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whether the system obtaining in some other provinces of assigning to each candidate some symbol or colour could not be adopted has been considered by the Government to be impracticable. They have decided that the existing arrangement should continue to be in force during the coming elections.'

"At the same time, the Government requested the various Collectors and persons who were in charge of the elections to make suggestions after having consulted important persons in the locality as to amending the regulations. This question will be considered. It is felt by Government that there are practical inconveniences. Reports have come to us. There is no getting away from this fact, viz., that persons were asked to go to particular places and say 'I am illiterate; therefore please record my vote for so and so'. Through speeches in this House, a certain amount of inconvenience the voters are put to has been reported to us. Cases also have been reported to us of persons otherwise literate outside the polling booth have, for the purposes of the polling booth, become illiterate. These cases have come to us. They have to be carefully considered and no easy solution is possible.

"Now, Sir, as to the question of deposit, I am afraid my hon. Friend the Member from Cuddapah will not be supported by many others. The amount of deposit fixed is Rs 250. There have been cases where in one constituency, certain persons were set up obviously as blinds and they get practically 150 or 200 votes as against 20,000 or 15,000 votes for other candidates. These cases apart, increase in the amount of deposit to be paid by candidates may deter a few persons. On the whole, it has been considered expedient not to change the amount of the deposit. So far as the latter point is concerned, I am not in a position to give my support to it. So far as the former point is concerned, we are awaiting representations. The matter is a difficult one and has to be carefully considered. I appeal to my hon. Friend not to press his motion because we have to come to an immediate conclusion on this point."

The motion was by leave withdrawn.

Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—"Sir, I beg to move

'to reduce the allotment of Rs. 25,000 for elections for Indian and Provincial Legislatures by Rs. 100.'

"My object is to discuss the question of (1) improving the present system of preparing voters' lists, (2) the burden on officials preparing them to make careful enquiries, (3) publication with fuller details and (4) increase of polling stations. The Government promised to increase the number of polling stations. So far as South Kanara is concerned, nothing was done and there was great inconvenience. The matter of the careful preparation of the voters' lists also was lost sight of. In moving this motion, I request the hon. the Leader of the House to issue orders to prepare the lists more carefully in future."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—"The demand will now be put to the House. Does any hon. Member wish to raise a point of order whether Mr. Saldanha's motion should be put to the House or not?"

* Mr. S. SATYAMURTI :—"I am not raising a point of order. May I ask you to kindly elucidate the ruling you just now gave a little further, for the information and guidance of this House as to when a question would be put to the House?"

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* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—“I think I am guided by rule 29, sub-rule (2), which runs as follows :

‘Of the days so allotted, not more than two days shall be allotted by the Governor to the discussion of any one demand. As soon as the maximum limit of time for discussion is reached, the President shall forthwith put every question necessary to dispose of the demand under discussion.’

“When a motion is made, the House will be seized of the motion when it is put as question by the President.

4 p.m. “Until the question is put, it remains simply as a motion, and when once the question is put, the House has got the seisin of it to discuss it as a question ; but until it is put as a question, I call it a motion. It does not mature into a question till then, and when once the House has got the seisin of the question, I have to put, soon after the time comes up, both the question and the demand to the vote of the House.”

Mr. S. SATYAMURTI :—“I am much obliged to you, Sir.”

The motion that the Government be granted a sum not exceeding Rs. 2·70 lakhs *minus* 200 under General Administration—Legislative bodies—was put to the House and carried. The grant was made.

DEMAND X—GENERAL ADMINISTRATION—SECRETARIATS.

* The hon. Mr. N. E. MARJORIBANKS :—“Mr. President, Sir, on the recommendation of His Excellency the Governor, I move

‘that the Government be granted a sum not exceeding Rs. 7·10 lakhs under Demand X—General Administration—Secretariats, for the year 1927–28.’

* Mr. S. SATYAMURTI :—“Mr. President, Sir, I rise to move

‘that the allotment of Rs. 39,800 for Executive Council be reduced by Rs. 16,600.’

“I raise this motion, Sir, in the form in which I have got to raise it. I believe I shall be hitting the unfortunate clerks, but I have to do so because the Executive Councillors’ salaries are not votable.”

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—“And also their allowances.”

* Mr. S. SATYAMURTI :—“And also their allowances—I am reminded of it. But I do it, Sir, without any feeling that I am doing something harmful to these clerks, because I know that it is the only way in which we can hit at the Executive Councillors. We also know that if the Government do not care to accept the motion, they can get the Governor’s certification. But, Sir, I find that so far as the question of the number of Members of the Executive Council is concerned, it is as old as the Reformed Council itself. There is a feeling that somehow we must have four Councillors, but, Sir, section 47 of the Government of India Act says ‘The Governor’s Executive Council shall be of such number, not exceeding four, as the Secretary of State in Council directs.’ Therefore, four is not the minimum number, but it is only the maximum number, as provided in the Act. As early as 1921, Mr. President, Mr. T. A. Ramalinga Chettiyar, then a Member of this Council, raised this question. Then, the answer was given on behalf of the Government by Sir Charles Toddhunter, and his arguments were twofold. The first was that the amount of work which the Executive Councillors had got

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to do had vastly increased and that therefore there was need for four Councillors, and the second was that the system of having four Executive Councillors had only recently been introduced and therefore there had not been sufficient time to test as to whether there was really work for these four Executive Councillors. Now, Sir, the time which Sir Charles Todhunter wanted has been more than exceeded, I submit. We are now very nearly on the eve of a Royal Commission which even Lord Birkenhead or Earl Winterton cannot postpone beyond 1929. Therefore it is up to this House and to the Madras Government to have some clear idea in their minds as to what is the number they require. But when in 1921 we raised this question, the answer was given that there was no time to decide. It has been raised, I find, consecutively, Mr. President, in 1921, in 1922 and in 1924 and on every occasion the House has been put off with one excuse or another. On the merits, Mr. President, when the destinies of the great British Empire which comprises one-fifth of the human race can be disposed of by about fifteen members on the front Treasury Bench of the House of Commons, it does not seem to me proper that the affairs of the Madras Province, a branch of a subordinate branch of the British Empire, dealing only with internal affairs and having nothing to do with foreign affairs, nothing to do with the army or navy or any of those great problems which the British Cabinet has got to deal with, and having nothing to do with central subjects, should need be managed by as many as seven members. I remember the time, Mr. President, young as I am, when the Madras Government consisted of three, the Governor and two Executive Councillors, the Governor being also ex-officio President of the Legislative Council. To-day, Sir, the work which was done by three men is done by seven men. Whether it is done very efficiently or not, opinions may differ on that point; but I am certain in my mind that the work to-day is not more efficiently done than it was done in those days.

"Then, Sir, we have been treated to this argument, that the demands of the Legislative Council on the time of the Members are so great that they would like to have some rest. After all is said and done, this House meets for not more than 50 days throughout the 365 days of the year and mostly for less than 50 days. And even during those 50 days, I have latterly seen a continual tendency on the part of the Executive Councillors to do their official work here, or if I may respectfully refer to it, in that bench there, or to be absent when their departments do not come up for discussion. Even on these days, they seem to be so overworked that when debates take place, they either absent themselves or, if the work is pressing, they dispose of files on their own table which is practically full always, or they dispose of files on that table there which is being kept ready for the officials, the secretaries and under secretaries. Therefore, the argument that the demands of the Council on their time are so great is not an argument which will weigh with this House.

"The one clever act of the bureaucracy is that if they want two Europeans, they say they also want two Indians; and for the four Executive Councillors, they have got two Indians and two European Civilians. That is another argument which I hope the House will not swallow. There is no work for four Councillors. The Justice party pleaded for three members and they also voted for three members, but that was probably because they wanted to distinguish themselves from the Congress motion. Now that they are in opposition, I hope they will agree, as they have been agreeing

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generously to vote with us in other matters, and see that the motion to reduce the number of Executive Councillors from four to two is a just demand and will have no anxiety to side with the Government directly or indirectly when we are all naturally anxious for retrenchment and economy. Whenever we want money for this or that scheme, we are told there is no money and the hon. the Finance Member was at great pains the other day to reconstruct the mangled body of his budget and failed in his attempt because he was not helped in the manner in which he felt he should be helped by this House. Here is a simple help offered by this House. Let two of these gentlemen go elsewhere and also let them get their salaries elsewhere. There may be some reduction—though there won't be much—but if you start with it, we can continually retrench; it will have its repercussion in the Secretariat also where the number of secretaries and under secretaries is growing at a pace which can be excelled only by the Indian army. The way in which the bureaucracy can multiply its officers is simply astonishing. I therefore suggest to the House that it should be pleased to vote for this out, which I know is substantial, because we feel in this matter that the House is the best judge and we know that if the Secretary of State is to be addressed, he will point to the Government of India, and if the Government of India are to be asked, they will say, 'ask the Madras Government'; we know this game of shuttle cock has been going on for a long time and this must be stopped. I move, Mr. President, the motion of which I have given notice."

* Diwan Bahadur M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—"Sir, I agree with the substance of the arguments that have fallen from my friend, the hon. Member for the University, but I shall go further. My friend stated that on the last occasion an argument was advanced, namely, that because there is a Legislative Council sitting for a longer time now than before, that would absorb some time of the Members of Council and therefore there is a need to agree to the present number. My friend's argument on that point is substantially correct, namely, that the sitting of the Council does not take away much of the time of the Members of Council. That argument is sound; but I shall go further. There is absolutely no need for four Council Members even if the Council sitting absorbs a portion of their time. As a matter of fact, Sir, the motion before the House is only to reduce the number of Councillors from four to two. Even if two are reduced, there are still three Ministers, so that there will be in all three Ministers and two Councillors, altogether five members. This number, five, is quite adequate to dispose of the work which was formerly done by a very much smaller number. I do not want to advance any further argument; practically all the arguments have been advanced by the hon. Member. We have heard this subject discussed over and over again on the floor of this House. I remember that on a former occasion this Council voted that the number should be reduced from four to three. My friend goes further than that and says that the number should be reduced to two. I agree with that. There is no need for having four Executive Council Members, and even if an Indian and a European are to be appointed as Executive Councillors, that number, two, will not create any difficulty. I support the motion."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT:—"Does Mr. Venkataramana Ayyangar propose to move his motion on the same subject separately or does he propose to speak on this motion?"

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* **MR. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR** :—" I do not propose to move it separately. I do not think it is worth while.

" Sir, I support this motion with very great pleasure. We have been going on with several annual farces year after year and this is one of those annuals, practically speaking. If the Government have got any sense of responsibility so far as resolutions of this Council are concerned, I think at least in this small point it must yield. This Council some years ago carried the proposition that the number should be reduced to three no doubt, and then we asked questions about that, and the Government were pleased to say that the matter had been reported to the Secretary of State and that the Secretary of State was considering over the matter. We will be glad to know what this Government has been thinking over that matter, what the opinion of the Government of India has been and what the Secretary of State has decided upon. It would be something for us to know whether there is any feeling of responsibility anywhere in any Government on this point. We have been crying hoarse, Sir, that the only result of the Reforms, so far as the public are concerned, is the increase of taxation; and so far as we know, there has been a decrease in the efficiency of the work that is done to-day. We are realizing more and more and from day to day that we are here absolutely doing nothing of any use. Our votes, our personalities and our Councils are all utilized whenever we are ready to play the second fiddle to the Government. And even on the smallest point, even the question of a small reduction of Rs. 3 lakhs in respect of registration fees or a few lakhs of rupees for this or that matter and even when the vote of the Council is practically unanimous, and what is more, unanimous year after year, the whole thing is thrown to the winds. And still, we are told that we are not realizing our responsibility here and that we want to move cuts and carry cuts. Well, Sir, if the Government can come to our rescue, here is one way in which they can do so. Unless the people at the top are prepared to make some self-sacrifice, it would not be possible to reduce the heavy expenditure incurred. If only we compare the annual Civil List issued five or six years ago with that issued this year, we can very well realize the gravity of the large amounts spent upon this item. Probably, the cost has grown double, and I suppose it is no exaggeration to say that, so far as the gazetted officers are concerned, there must have been at least 50 per cent increase in their number in addition to the large increase in their pay. Therefore, if there is to be any earnestness on the part of the Government benches to come to the rescue of the poor tax-payers, and what is more, to respect the feelings of at least one of the Governors of this Presidency who at one time, before the present taxation was very much increased and the present heavy expenditure came to be incurred, said that at least 20 per cent of the expenditure should be cut off in every department, the Government will accept the motion.

" The only result probably has been that if we look into the figures then and if we look into the figures now we will see that in spite of promise of reduction there is at least 50 per cent increase. As I have said the other day, we are paying a very heavy toll for the pay of establishments. The hon. Sir Charles Todhunter when he was the Finance Member referred to Kautilya and said that Kautilya did not know anything about taxation, but he was at once reminded of what Kautilya says, that the establishment charges should never exceed 25 per cent of the expenses of Government. Now we are paying practically 75 per cent, and if we include pensions, the

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Government House, and the buildings for Government officials and other things, we may see that practically 90 per cent of our income and expenditure goes towards establishments. Therefore it is a crying need that we should do something, and the best way in which the Government can show their earnestness, if they are earnest, is to have some reduction. We do not ask that all these people should go home at once; they will certainly continue and pass an order that at least as vacancies occur they may not be filled up. That would have been quite satisfactory. Therefore I think, that Government, instead of saying the usual thing that this is a matter for the Secretary of State and all these things, will readily tell us that so far at least as this Government is concerned they are prepared to make a recommendation on the lines we suggest and probably in our life of nearly seven years we will be justified. Even if this is not done I am afraid there is absolutely no use in our existence either for seven years or seventy years. Therefore I have great pleasure in supporting this motion."

* Mr. ABBAS ALI KHAN :—" Mr. President, I rise to oppose this motion. I find myself out of alignment after what my distinguished predecessors have spoken on this subject. Mr. President, if this resolution is agreed to, we will neither have a Brahman member nor a Mussalman on the Executive Council. I am a Mussalman here, being a member for two consecutive Councils and have come here a third time. I know the feeling of the Mussalman community. I know the feeling of the community at large and with that information I speak with a certain amount of authority, which I am sure will not be controverted. I am personally convinced that whether the Swarajists are ruling this House or the Justice party rule this House, the Muslim community will never be occupying a seat in the Cabinet. The bureaucracy have been accused in season and out of season. The Muslim community always looks to the bureaucracy for protection and succour, and I am going to say that I am entitled to my rights, and I say that we look actually to the Government to protect and to look after our interests. Therefore, Sir, I beg to submit, as I said, that whoever rules this House, I am sure, they will not sufficiently safeguard and protect the interests of Muhammadans. Personally I have no confidence, and I feel other communities are not so advanced as to give us that amount of support, that amount of consideration and courtesy which we could expect from our co-religionist; and the result will be to deprive a Muhammadan from occupying a seat. I also warn my Brahman friends that they will also be reduced to a minority and when they are in a minority they will also ask this Government that their minority community should also be recognized. If in the next general election there is an overwhelming majority of the Justice party, then you will find that the Brahman will also require some person to look after his interests. Therefore, Sir, I strongly oppose this motion which aims at the suppression of two appointments that will naturally follow by the exclusion of two Indian Members."

* Mr. K. V. R SWAMI :—" Mr President, I beg to support this motion and I am sorry that I cannot agree with my hon. Friend, Mr. Abbas Ali. He seems to have very grave doubts that if a Brahman gentleman happens to be there his interests will not be protected. But, I am ready and I am willing that a Muhammadan gentleman may occupy that place. I am willing to be ruled by a Muhammadan gentleman and I am quite sure that my interests will be quite safe in the hands of Mr. Abbas Ali, if he happens to be a Member of the Government. The question is not who should be there. If we consider this point from that standpoint, we should have a Christian

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gentleman, a gentleman belonging to the depressed classes and a gentleman belonging to other castes; that is not the question; nor is it a political question. We do not base it on the political standpoint of view, but we simply move this cut, because we want some retrenchment to be effected. I have myself proposed a number of cuts, because I feel that most of the revenues are spent on departments, that the moneys are spent with both the hands and that the rate-payer is getting very little benefit out of the moneys he is contributing for the upkeep of this Government. It may be asked that if two places must go, who will have to go just now. The seniormost are, I am told, the Law Member and the Revenue Member and so, the Home Member will continue and there is no room for the fears of my hon. Friend Mr. Abbas Ali. And if the Home Member is to be succeeded, my hon. Friend Mr. Abbas Ali may succeed him, since he has got very many doubts and I think he will have pleasure for some time to rule over us all, and we will show implicit obedience as we have faith in his discretion. It does not matter who is there, but so long as he is there I think he will look after the interests of all Indians irrespective of caste or creed. With these few words I support the motion to have some economy effected in the Government expenditure."

MR. ABDUL HAMID KHAN :—"Mr. President, I did not wish to speak on this motion, but from what I heard from the hon. Member Mr. Abbas Ali, I think we must make our position clear. Some of the Mussalmans who are Congressmen are more interested in the Mussalmans than those gentlemen who seem to take upon themselves the representative character of representing their own community . . . (Hear, hear.) Mr. President, I wish to point out to this House the fact that the Congressmen, be they Hindus, Mussalmans or Christians, stand for equal justice to all communities and certainly when they put that principle into practice they will show it to those gentlemen who have been talking only of communal representation and of communal rights. We know the salaries of the Executive Councillors are non-voted, and if we have tabled a motion of this character, it is in order to point out to the Government that we are at present not able, under the present conditions, to put up with such a large number of Members of the Cabinet. It is more or less a point of economy; it is an economic question. It is that our finances should not be spent on such a large number of Councillors, and besides we have seen that only two Executive Councillors were able to manage whereas there are now seven. Mr. President, it is very wrong to say that if this motion was carried and if it was to be given effect to, it is the Mussalman Member or the Brahman Member who would go. Why should we think so? It does not matter how this economy is brought about. But certainly we Muhammadans do want and say that Mussalmans are given proper share in every respect and Mussalmans get their proper share in the higher officers as well as anywhere else just as we have got representation in Council, but certainly not at the risk of economy. Mr. President, I am sure that every Muhammadan who wishes to see that the Cabinet consists of a Mussalman Member will certainly not go to the extent of saying that we must increase the number of Executive Councillors even at the risk of economy. Mr. President, I say that although I belong to the Congress party, I shall be the last man to see that the Mussalman community suffers to any extent. I wish to say that my fellow members of the Congress party, Hindus as well as Christians, would do justice to the Muslims; but the moment I see that

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any injustice is done to my fellow Muslims I shall be ready more than any other Mussalman to fight that community which stands in the way of proper representation of the Muslim community."

Mr. S. SATYAMURTI :—" Sir, have I your leave to make my motion in a slightly amended form ? "

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" Order, order. The amendment must come from another Member and not by the mover of the motion himself. "

Mr. SAMI VENKATACHALAM CHETTI :—" Sir, may I have your permission to slightly amend the motion, that the figure Rs. 16,60 be reduced to Rs. 100 ? In substance it will mean that the amount of the grant be reduced by Rs. 100. "

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" I take it that in substance it means that the substantial cut be turned into a token motion. I suppose there is no objection to it. "

* The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—" So far as our rules are concerned, they do not make a differentiation between a substantial motion and a token motion. It is a matter more or less of adjustment or of convention and I submit, Sir, there is no point in it. "

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" Since there is no objection and there is already the practice in this House as elsewhere by which substantial motions of this nature have been converted into token motions by the substitution of a smaller figure, I allow the motion to be made. "

Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR :—" I second the motion. "

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* The hon. Mr. N. E. MARJORIBANKS :—" Sir, so far as the stated purpose of the token cut goes, which is that the number of Members of the Executive Council be reduced, as I said on another occasion in connexion with diarchy and provincial autonomy, it is not a matter within the competence of this Government, nor is it one on which we have any power at all unless we are invited to make a recommendation or give an opinion. Whenever that happens, any views expressed in this House will of course be taken into consideration. But more than that, Sir, this not being a concern of the Local Government, I can say nothing. "

Mr. MAHMUD SCHAMNAD SAHIB :—" Sir, I have no objection to support this motion provided a place in the Executive Council is reserved for a Muhammadan. " (Laughter.)

* Mr. D THOMAS :—" Mr President, Sir, I belong to the Indian Christian community, and I yield to no member of any community in representing its interests, so far as it is consistent with the country's interests. But over and above the interests of my community, there is the paramount interest of the economical administration of the country. So far as, and inasmuch as, the question is in favour of reducing the expenditure of the administration of the province consistent with efficiency and general good government, I submit that such a motion would command the attention and support of every reasonable Member of this House. Only one point I wish to submit to the House and it is this. The effect of this motion would be two fold, one as regards the Executive Councillors themselves and the other as regards the establishments attached to each Executive Councillor. So far as the Executive Councillors are concerned, it is admitted that our vote will

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only be a resolution and will not really affect them. But so far as the establishments are concerned, our vote will have a much more radical and destructive effect. And I may submit that it is to our interests to see that establishments which have been long sanctioned and which have been attached to the Executive Councillors should not be straightaway cut off so as to turn adrift a large number of clerks. I would also submit one other point for the consideration of the House. We are all talking and giving our opinions about the number of Executive Councillors sufficient for carrying on the administration. It is one thing to speak from outside and say what number would be sufficient, but it is another thing to get into the Executive Council itself and see what amount of work is turned out by each Executive Councillor. I believe and I think that a certain amount of misapprehension is possible for an outsider as to the number of Executive Councillors necessary for carrying on the administration of the country. But allowing for such differences I still believe that, considering the number in existence previous to the Reforms and the number of Councillors that are now carrying on the administration, there is some room for reduction. Therefore as a token motion, I am in favour of the motion before the House and would cordially commend it for the support of the House."

Mr. V. I. MUNISWAMI PILLAI:—"Sir, I rise to oppose this motion not because no Member of our community is represented on the Executive Council or the Cabinet, but because seeing the nature of the debate that has been going on for the last three or four days, this House has committed itself for spending crores of rupees on irrigation and such other schemes and it is not the proper time that we should try to make a cut in the number of Executive Councillors."

Mr. G. HARISARVOTTAMA RAO:—"I move that the question be now put."

Mr. C. S. Govindaraja Mudaliyar seconded it.

The motion for closure was put and adopted.

The motion of Mr. Satyamurti as amended by Mr. Sami Venkatachallam Chetti was then put and declared lost. A poll was demanded and the House divided as follows:—

Ayes.

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|-------------------------------------|---|
| 1. Mr. H. B. Ari Gowder. | 22. Mr. K. P. V. S. Muhammad Meera Ravuttar. |
| 2. „ Balakrishna Shetty. | 23. „ D. Narayana Raja. |
| 3. „ T. M. Narayanaswami Pillai. | 24. „ M. Narayana Rao. |
| 4. „ C. R. Parthasarathi Ayyangar. | 25. „ B. S. Mallaya. |
| 5. „ W. P. A. Soundarapandia Nadar. | 26. „ K. Uppi Saib. |
| 6. „ T. C. Srinivasa Ayyangar. | 27. „ C. Marudavanam Pillai. |
| 7. „ Chavadi K. Subrahmanya Pillai. | 28. „ J. A. Saldanha. |
| 8. „ D. Thomas. | 29. „ C. Obi Keddi. |
| 9. „ K. R. Venkatarama Ayyar. | 30. „ A. Parasurama Rao Pantula. |
| 10. „ S. Arpudaswami Udayar. | 31. Sriman Biswanath Das Mahasayo. |
| 11. „ Sami Venkatachalam Chetti. | 32. Mr. A. Kaleswara Rao. |
| 12. „ S. Satyamurti. | 33. „ R. Srinivasa Ayyangar. |
| 13. „ C. V. Venkataramana Ayyangar. | 34. Nattam Dubash Kadir Sahib Syed Ibrahim Sahib Bahadur. |
| 14. „ T. Adinarayana Chettiyar. | 35. Mr. K. S. Sivasubrahmanya Ayyar. |
| 15. „ P. Anjaneyulu. | 36. „ L. K. Talasiram. |
| 16. „ S. Muttayya Mudaliyar. | 37. „ K. R. Karant. |
| 17. „ P. C. Venkatasapati Raju. | 38. „ K. Madhavan Nayar. |
| 18. „ C. S. Govindaraja Mudaliyar. | 39. „ C. Venkatarangam Nayudu. |
| 19. „ G. Harisarvottama Rao. | |
| 20. „ Abdul Hamid Khan. | |
| 21. „ K. V. R. Swami. | |

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Ayes—cont.

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| 40. Mr. M. A. Manikkavelu Nayakar. | 46. Diwan Bahadur S. Kumaraswami Reddiyar. |
| 41. Diwan Bahadur M. Krishnan Nayar. | 47. Rao Bahadur B. Muniswami Nayudu. |
| 42. Khan Bahadur S. K. Abdul Razaak Sahib Bahadur. | 48. Mr. K. Sarabha Reddi. |
| 43. Mr. P. T. Rajan. | 49. Rao Bahadur K. Sitarama Reddi. |
| 44. „ T. K. Chidambaranatha Mudaliyar. | 50. Zamindar of Mirzapuram. |
| 45. Rao Sahib S. Ellappa Chettiyar. | 51. Mr. J. Kuppaswami. |

Noes.

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|--|--|
| 1. The hon. Sir C. P. Ramaswami Ayyar. | 17. Mr. M. Hampayya. |
| 2. „ Mr. N. E. Marjoribanks. | 18. Muppil Nayar of Kavalappara alias Kumar Raman. |
| 3. „ Khan Bahadur Muhammad Uman Sahib Bahadur. | 19. Subadar-Major S. A. Nanjappa Bahadur. |
| 4. „ Mr. T. E. Moir. | 20. Mr. N. Siva Raj. |
| 5. Mr. T. R. Venkatarama Sastriyar | 21. „ M. V. Gangadhar Siva. |
| 6. „ J. F. Hall. | 22. „ S. Subrahmanya Moopanar. |
| 7. „ P. L. Moore. | 23. Rao Sahib P. V. S. Sundaramurti Pillai. |
| 8. „ H. Tireman. | 24. Mr. S. Venkiah. |
| 9. „ G. T. Boag. | 25. „ K. Krishnan. |
| 10. „ V. Pandrang Rao. | 26. „ G. R. Premayya. |
| 11. „ S. H. Slater. | 27. Swami Sahajananda. |
| 12. „ C. B. Cotterell. | 28. Rao Sahib K. Srinivasan. |
| 13. Khan Bahadur Muhammad Bazl-ul-lah Sahib Bahadur. | 29. Mr. C. E. Wood. |
| 14. Mr. Wahab Sahib. | 30. Rao Sahib L. C. Guruswami. |
| 15. „ Abbas Ali Khan. | 31. Mr. V. I. Muniswami Pillai. |
| 16. „ J. Bheemayya. | |

Ayes 51 ; Noes 31.

The motion was carried.

- * Mr. S. SATYAMURTI:—"Sir, I move
'that the allotment of Rs. 74,900 for Chief Secretariat be reduced by Rs. 100 (to discuss the need for retrenchment and for further Indianization of all Secretariats).''

"Sir, I have not got the exact figures with me just now, but I am sure every hon. Member of this House must have been impressed with the fact, as I have been, that the way in which the number of Secretaries, Under Secretaries, Deputy Secretaries and what not—their name is legion—is being increased, in a staggering manner. It was your distinguished predecessor, Mr. Ratnaswami, who in one of his excellent speeches on the floor of this House as a non-official Member pointed out how the Secretariat had grown up by leaps and bounds and all kinds of special officers were appointed; and I want that the Government should begin earnest retrenchment by reducing the number of Secretaries.

"One other matter I raise, and that is the further Indianization of all the Secretariats. It is a curious fact, Mr. President, that while the front bench is predominantly Indian, the second bench on the official side is predominantly European. I believe it is the subtle game of the bureaucracy that while they make a concession or a gesture of Indianizing the front bench, they are entrenching themselves in the rear bench by means of the European civilians of the Secretariats. Under the Reforms the non-official Ministers have got their masters not in this House but in the European Secretaries who have got the statutory right to go direct to the Governor behind the back of the Minister and say 'The Minister is ignorant. He is a non-official. He does not understand this matter. I can understand it better. If you carry out the suggestion of the Minister, the whole administration will come down. I am of the steel frame and you are here to protect me. Therefore do as I suggest.' I see that the hon. the Chief Minister is shaking

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[Mr. S. Satyamurti]

his head vigorously out of loyalty to his servants, and I hope he will be rewarded by similar loyalty on the part of the servants to him. But apart from that, while official etiquette may prevent them from speaking out their minds, I believe all Ministers who have ceased to hold office, or Ministers who while in office write confidential reports will agree with me that more often than not their masterful secretaries get the better of them, in any case in which there is a difference of opinion between the Secretary and the Minister. I believe Sir Patro in his memorandum submitted to the Muddiman Committee stated that one of the difficulties in the working of diarchy is the extreme difficulty of having Secretaries who have got the statutory power of getting the Governor's ear. I am not suggesting—my experience is rather to the contrary—that because the Secretaries are Indians they are going to be more amenable to the Ministers or less amenable to the influence of the steel frame. I entirely agree with my hon. Friend, if I may take note of any interruptions, because I know that Indianization is by no means equivalent to democratization. On the other hand, the tragedy of Indians joining the bureaucracy and out-Heroding Herod in their attitude towards Indian aspirations is too common a fact to need particular mention here. But at the same time, I believe that one of the objects of the declaration of the 20th August 1917, as important as the development of self-governing institutions, is the increasing association of Indians in the public services and I do submit therefore that if that part of the Royal announcement is going to be given effect to, it must be given effect to in the Secretariats at headquarters where policies are framed; and as time goes on, while Ministers come and go, we must be able to command an efficient body of men who will loyally carry out the policy of the Legislature, and do not have their own ideas of right and wrong to be put in the way of Ministers who may come into power. I believe, Sir, democracy requires it. And I also believe that that retrenchment of which I hear so much, should be practised at the headquarters. I do hope that the hon. the Finance Member and the Finance Secretary sympathize with me at least with the first part of my motion that we must have more retrenchment. I believe their department is somewhat an extravagant department. They want always special assistants and assistant officers to prepare the budget and so on and so forth. This must stop. I therefore move that the allotment of Rs. 74,900 be reduced by Rs. 100."

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* Mr. K. V. R. SWAMI :—" I support this motion, Sir, for these reasons. I endorse every word of what my hon. Friend the Member for the University has said. I have no personal experience of these Secretaries. But I am told that even in the Transferred departments, though the Chief Minister was shaking his head the other way, it seems that the whole department is being run by the Secretaries only. He had a manifestation of that feeling when a gentleman approached him. It is uncomfortable both for the Secretary and the Minister. Unfortunately the Secretaries are Indian Civil Service men. They are accustomed to lead a certain kind of life which does not enable them to adjust themselves to the present situation. They would carry their word in spite of anything and everything. They were brought up in an atmosphere which no outside influence would make them bend to the popular will. Also there is this thing. If there is no such difficulty though the orders might be passed by the Minister, on account of this

[Mr. K. V. R. Swami]

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prevailing opinion, it will be thought that the Minister is being ruled by the Secretary. In one case it appears that the Minister was assuring a certain gentleman that he would pass orders in a certain way in a certain matter. In the meantime, the orders went in the name of the Secretary. Then the Minister said that he had changed the opinion and therefore he had to do that. It is very much better for the Executive Councillors and more for the Ministers to have Indians as their Secretaries. For Europeans it is better to have Indian Secretaries because they will have to some extent an opportunity to know the Indian point of view. I have no faith in the Indian Civil Service men either. My reason is this. As soon as they get into that department, they would lose all their nationality and national feeling as my friend has observed. Sometimes the European Secretaries are more amenable than the Indian Secretaries. He feels that unless he behaves just like a European, he would not be thought a good and efficient officer. Anyhow, it is better that European Members of the Executive Council should have Indian Secretaries, so that they may know at least to some extent the Indian point of view. Under these circumstances, I support the motion and I feel that the hon. Members of this House would support this motion because there are very many complaints in this matter."

* Mr. J. A. SALDANHA:—"Sir, I only want to draw attention to the fact that there appears to be a sort of ban upon the Provincial Civil Service officers from entering the Secretariat. We have got hardly one man as secretary or deputy secretary recruited from the Provincial Civil Service. Surely I think it is possible to find men from the Provincial Civil Service who will be quite fit and qualified for Secretariat work. There are very competent men in the judicial service and there are also competent men in the subordinate executive service who have got the necessary qualifications by education, by training and by resourcefulness, to do any work in the Secretariat. One thing that could be expected from this service is that they would generally understand the Indian point of view better and more easily than the Indian Civil Service gentlemen who are raw men recruited from England after a long stay there and who have no touch with the Indian point of view. Well, at least most of them imagine that they should always bow to the Indian Civil Service point of view. Because as pointed out by an eminent gentleman, the Indian Civil Service is neither Indian, nor civil nor serviceable to the Indian cause. Their point of view is almost always altogether European, whether the Indian Civil Service man is an Indian or a European. There are very few of them who would take the Indian point of view. So, what I would urge is that there should be more recruitment from the Provincial Services for the Secretariat."

Mr. K. KOTI REDDI:—"Much as I would support the motion, I really do not believe all that has been said with regard to the attitude of the Civil Service officers in the Secretariat here, whether Indian or English. To me it is not so much in the personality or persons as in the Secretariat itself. I believe there is a rule—I do not know whether it is a fact—that where the Secretary and the Minister differ the matter has to be referred to the Governor. As such, the Secretary has some responsibility in all things that come up for discussion here. I believe if there is a difference of opinion between him and the Minister—an honest difference of opinion—he has to send it to His Excellency. I mean so long as there is a rule like that—I believe there is a rule like

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that—so long as there is that responsibility with the Secretary there is no good finding fault with the difference. Let us attack the system and not the particular Secretary or Secretaries concerned. I personally do not believe they are so unsympathetic as they are represented to be. Possibly when we have Indians and when they differ from the Ministers they might do the same thing. So long as the rule is there, we ought not to complain against the persons so much. But it is really necessary that some more Indian Secretaries should be provided in the Secretariat. As my friends have said, so far as the service is concerned and so far as their attitude with regard to questions Indian is concerned whether they are Indian or European, it is the same. But at the same time, let us have some more Indian Secretaries getting more experience so that when the time comes we may not need the help of Europeans. I believe the system of drawing more Indian Secretaries may be useful. Having said all that, I support the motion not because of the attitude taken by the European Secretaries. I believe they are not so very unsympathetic. My complaint is more with regard to the system. If we could possibly change the system by which the Minister is made all powerful and not the Governor to whom complaints of differences of opinion now go, it would be better."

* Mr. A. KALESWARA RAO:—"Sir, I have great pleasure in supporting the motion. We have found that the Reforms have been only useful to this extent, namely, that they have increased expenditure in all the higher branches of administration. Instead of three men doing the whole work of the Presidency now, we have got seven gentlemen for the same departments, of course distributed in various other ways. Along with these Executive Councillors and Ministers, the Secretaries have also increased. So first from the point of view of retrenchment we have also to cut down the number of Secretaries. The question of Indianisation is really not so important as the question of powers. What is really happening is the Ministers have very little control over their Secretaries. The Government of India Act has given a statutory guarantee that the Indian Civil Service men alone should be Secretaries except in a few departments. Secondly, we see the Minister and the Executive Councillor have a joint Secretary. For instance for Law and Education, the same gentleman is the Secretary. He is the Education Secretary for the Minister and the Law Secretary for the Law Member. The Law Member is the Vice-President of the Council, he is the Leader of the House and he has got all the powers, whereas the Ministers belong to the Transferred department and have to depend for everything on the Reserved side. There is also a motion here given by one of my friends for the redistribution of the Secretariat portfolios in a way giving real powers to the Ministers. This sort of joint secretaryship is not in the interests of the Ministers. The Ministers may be compared to the position of the Telugu pandits. If any student in his class does mischief, he goes to the headmaster to get him punished. The Minister can neither suspend nor punish the Secretary and really the Secretaries are the masters of the situation. The Indian Civil Service officers are not known for their sympathies with regard to the advancement of the country politically and constitutionally. In the Local Self-Government Department we see so many difficulties in the way of the Ministers. Of course, the District Municipalities and Local Boards Acts were passed in 1920, just before the commencement of the Reforms. Those Acts still continue. Not to have amended them till now is all the

[Mr. A. Kaleswara Rao]

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fault of the ex-Ministers I must say. The Indian Civil Service Secretary is there behind the Minister controlling everything and there is the Collector who has got the control of the municipal and local boards. Through him the resolutions have to come. Through him the nominations have to be made. A man who wears khaddar has no chance of nomination. He is called a non-co-operator, this and that. The Justice Ministers have changed and a party that claims to be more progressive has come to power. It has yet to be seen how far they will prove progressive in action. The Collector's intervention has to be removed altogether and the Inspector of Local Self-Government or somebody has to be the link between the municipalities and district boards and the Minister. In education it is the European Director of Public Instruction who has a lot of control and the Minister has no control over him. Whenever any person cannot punish his servant there is no control over that servant. When the Minister and his Secretary differ they both go to the Governor and we know the Governor will be on the side of the bureaucrats and not on the side of the Ministers. So the cut is necessary; a readjustment is necessary and also a change in the condition of things."

The House adjourned to meet again at 11 a.m. the next day.

R. V. KRISHNA AYYAR,
Secretary to the Legislative Council.

APPENDIX I.

[Vide answer to question No. 404 asked by Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. Patro at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on the 19th March 1927, page 441 supra.]

Resolutions passed at the Elementary Education Conference held at Ootacamund on the 26th and 27th May 1923.

Resolutions passed at the meeting held on Saturday, the 26th May 1923.

I. Resolved that, with a view to the gradual expansion of elementary education in rural areas, each village with a population of 500 inhabitants and over should have a school.

II. Resolved that, with a view to start elementary schools in the four thousand and odd villages with a population of 500 and over, which are now without any school facilities, in districts where the number of such villages is below one hundred the Deputy Inspector of Schools should be directed to visit such villages and endeavour to start aided schools, and in districts where the number of such villages exceeds one hundred, the District Educational Councils be empowered to employ one or more special officers for such time as the Government may sanction and on such salary as the Government may allow, for the purpose of investigating in those villages and starting schools.

III. Resolved that the Deputy Inspectors of Schools shall be officers of the District Educational Councils, just as sub-assistant surgeons are placed at the disposal of local boards.

19th March 1927]

IV. Resolved that in villages of less than 500 inhabitants it will be open to the District Educational Councils to consider the starting of schools in such villages with the aid of the present inspecting staff.

V. Resolved that the programme of starting schools in villages with a population of 500 and over should be worked out within three years and the opening of schools in the other villages should be carried out in ten years.

VI. Resolved that indigenous schools shall be developed and made eligible for aid and that the new schools to be started shall ordinarily be aided schools, and, when it is not possible to start aided schools in some villages, local bodies shall take steps to start their schools in such places.

The following rider to the above resolution, proposed by Mr. C. V. S. Narasimha Raju, was agreed to by the Committee :—

The necessity of entrusting the management of aided schools to village panchayats rather than to teacher-managers may be examined by the District Educational Councils.

Resolutions passed at the meeting held on Sunday the 27th May 1923.

I. This Conference has to point out that frequent transfers of Deputy Inspectors of Schools from one range to another cause great inconvenience, particularly to elementary schools, and therefore advises that such frequent transfers may be avoided.

II. It is resolved that, as regards the question of the preparation of the annual statistical returns, No. 3 prescribed under section 26, for this year, pending examination of Resolution III passed at the meeting held on 26th May 1923, this Conference is of opinion that the Deputy Inspector of Schools should gather and consolidate the returns from each school either under public or private management, in his range, and that the District Educational Officer should consolidate these returns for the whole district and transmit the same to the District Educational Council to be forwarded to the Director of Public Instruction.

III. This Conference is of opinion that sessional and lower elementary training schools be abolished, as far as possible, that local bodies and private managers be encouraged by grants-in-aid to start training classes attached to their institutions, that certificates in higher elementary training be given to those trained in those aided institutions by the District Educational Officer as to their fitness for the teaching profession, and that local boards be permitted to appoint persons who have studied up to the third form in recognized secondary schools under their control.

IV. This Conference resolves that the third form man may be classed as equivalent to a lower elementary trained teacher.

V. Resolved that general education in the training schools is not necessary and that vacation classes for elementary teachers be introduced.

VI. (a) This Conference is of opinion that the courses of study prescribed in the rules is quite sufficient and comprehensive.

(b) Resolved that District Educational Councils may adopt text-books selected by them with the approval of the President of the Text-Books Committee and that the text-books selected by them be continued to be used until the Director of Public Instruction objects to them.

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VII. This Conference is of opinion that in addition to the 3 R's one or other kind of manual training should be made compulsory as far as possible.

VIII. This Conference is of opinion that on the question of the relations between District Educational Councils and local bodies and aided institutions, the harmonious working between them should be watched and no action is necessary at present.

IX. This Conference suggests that the District Educational Councils should organize associations of non-Mission aided teacher-managers.

X. This Conference is of opinion that section 37 of the Elementary Education Act should be amended so that every local body may get the Government contribution within the current year.

XI. Resolved that each member of the Conference should prepare a memorandum proposing any amendments necessary for the Act as well as the rules and forward the same to Mr. R. Ramachandra Rao (Secretary to Government, Law Department) before the 15th June 1923.

APPENDIX II

[Vide answer to question No. 406 asked by Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. Patro at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on the 19th March 1927, page 442 supra.]

List showing the names of the Municipalities which have resolved to introduce compulsory elementary education.

Name of Municipality.					Date of Resolution.
1.	Negapatam	...	...	...	9th November 1921.
2.	Kumbakonam	...	...	...	11th "
3.	Vellore	...	...	...	18th April 1922. "
4.	Conjeeveram	...	...	...	19th May "
5.	Tiruppur	...	...	...	24th June "
6.	Tellicherry	...	...	...	28th " "
7.	Erode	...	...	...	12th July "
8.	Tinnevely	...	...	...	28th " "
9.	Masulipatam	...	...	...	24th October 1922.
* 10.	Coimbatore	...	...	...	23rd November 1922.
* 11.	Tanjore	...	...	...	16th December "
12.	Cochin	...	...	...	15th January 1923.
13.	Mayavaram	...	...	...	16th " "
14.	Chingleput	...	...	...	17th February "
15.	Madura	...	...	...	16th March 1923.
16.	Hindupur	...	...	...	29th September 1923.
* 17.	Proddatur	...	...	...	26th October 1923.
18.	Madras	...	...	...	28th March 1924.
* 19.	Dindigul	...	...	...	8th January 1925.
20.	Calicut	...	...	...	26th "
21.	Parlakimedi	...	...	...	11th July 1925. "
22.	Hospet	...	...	...	13th November 1925.

* These municipalities have not yet introduced compulsion.

19th March 1927]

APPENDIX III

[Vide answer to question No. 410 asked by Mr. K. V. R. Swami at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on the 19th March 1927, page 448 supra.]

Serial number and name of fish-curing yard.	District.	Taluk.	Village.
1. Gangolly	South Kanara ..	Coondapoor ..	Gangolly.
2. Hungerootta	Do. ..	Udipi ..	Kody.
3. Malpe, I	Do. ..	Do. ..	Kodawo.
4. Malpe, II	Do. ..	Do. ..	Do.
5. Padu Tonse	Do. ..	Do. ..	Tonse.
6. Udaiawar	Do. ..	Do. ..	Udaiawar.
7. Hosabettu	Do. ..	Mangalore ..	Hosabettu.
8. Bookpatna	Do. ..	Do. ..	Bolur.
9. Thanneerbhavi	Do. ..	Do. ..	Thanneerbhavi.
10. Mangalore	Do. ..	Do. ..	Mangalore Tota.
11. Ullal	Do. ..	Do. ..	Ullal.
12. Manjeshwar	Do. ..	Kasaragod ..	Hosabettu.
13. Kumbha	Do. ..	Do. ..	Kumbha.
14. Uppala	Do. ..	Do. ..	Uppala.
15. Kasargod	Do. ..	Do. ..	Kasaragod Kasba.
16. Adkathbail	Do. ..	Do. ..	Adkathbail.
17. Khiyur	Do. ..	Do. ..	Kalnad.
18. Bekal	Do. ..	Do. ..	Bekal.
19. Hosdroog	Do. ..	Do. ..	Hosdroog.
20. Thaikadapuram	Do. ..	Do. ..	Nileshwar.
21. Madai	Malabar ..	Chirakkal ..	Puthiyangadi.
22. Matool	Do. ..	Do. ..	Matool.
23. Baliapatam	Do. ..	Do. ..	Azhikode.
24. Cannanore	Do. ..	Do. ..	Tayyil.
25. Tellicherry	Do. ..	Kottayam ..	Chalil.
26. Thalayi	Do. ..	Do. ..	Thalayi.
27. Madapalli	Do. ..	Kurumbranad ..	Madapalli.
28. Badagara	Do. ..	Do. ..	Kuriadi.
29. Meladi	Do. ..	Do. ..	Meladi.
30. Quilandy	Do. ..	Do. ..	Kovilkandi.
31. Elathur	Do. ..	Calicut ..	Elathur.
32. Padiappa	Do. ..	Do. ..	Puthiyangadi.
33. Calicut North	Do. ..	Do. ..	Kalathikunnu.
34. Calicut South	Do. ..	Do. ..	Panniyankera.
35. Beypore North	Do. ..	Do. ..	Beypore.
36. Beypore South	Do. ..	Ernad ..	Chaliyam.
37. Parappanangadi	Do. ..	Do. ..	Parappanangadi.
38. Kadalundi	Do. ..	Do. ..	Do.
39. Tanur North	Do. ..	Ponnani ..	Rayirimangalore.
40. Tanur South	Do. ..	Do. ..	Do.
41. Paravanna	Do. ..	Do. ..	Siramaruthur.
42. Kootayi	Do. ..	Do. ..	Mangalore.
43. Ponnani	Do. ..	Do. ..	Kodavanad.
44. Pudu Ponnani	Do. ..	Do. ..	Do.
45. Veliangode	Do. ..	Do. ..	Veliangode.
46. Palapatty	Do. ..	Do. ..	Ayiroor.
47. Mannalamkunnu	Do. ..	Do. ..	Punnayur.
48. Edakazhiyur	Do. ..	Do. ..	Edakazhiyur.
49. Chowghat	Do. ..	Do. ..	Kadapour.
50. Blangod	Do. ..	Do. ..	Mauthala.
51. Vadanapalli	Do. ..	Do. ..	Vadanapalli.
52. Kodumbi	Do. ..	Do. ..	Palliprom.
53. Kurikusha	Do. ..	Do. ..	Chantrapini.
54. Kaipemangalam	Do. ..	Do. ..	Kaipemangalam.
55. Vanagiri	Tanjore ..	Shiyali ..	Vanagiri.
56. Tranquebar	Do. ..	Mayavaram ..	Tranquebar.

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Serial number and name of fish-curing yard.	District.	Taluk.	Village.
57. Arcot Thurai ..	Tanjore ..	Tiruturaipundi ..	Thopputhurai.
58. Point Calimere ..	Do. ..	Do. ..	Kadaikarai.
59. Muthupet ..	Do. ..	Do. ..	Muthupet.
60. Adirampatnam ..	Do. ..	Pattukkottai ..	Adirampatnam
61. Sethubavachatram ..	Do. ..	Do. ..	Sethubavachatram.
62. Nambuthalai ..	Ramnad ..	Tiruvadanai ..	Nambuthalai.
63. Atankarai ..	Do. ..	Ramnad ..	Atankarai.
64. Mukkur ..	Do. ..	Mudakulattur ..	Mukkur.
65. Sippikulam ..	Tinnevely ..	Koilpatti ..	Sippikulam.
66. Pinnakayal ..	Do. ..	Tiruchendur ..	Pinnakayal.
67. Ovari ..	Do. ..	Nanguneri ..	Ovari.
68. Idinthakarai ..	Do. ..	Do. ..	Idinthakarai.
69. Kadapakam ..	Chingleput ..	Madurantakam ..	Kadapakam.
70. Sattankuppam ..	Do. ..	Ponneri ..	Pulicat.
71. Pulicat ..	Do. ..	Do. ..	Do.
72. Mangodu ..	Do. ..	Do. ..	Pungolam.
73. Medicalkuppam ..	Do. ..	Do. ..	Elavur.
74. Irakam ..	Nellore ..	Gudur ..	Irakam.
75. Pulianjerikuppam ..	Do. ..	Do. ..	Sriharikota.
76. Kondurpalaiyam ..	Do. ..	Do. ..	Kondurpalaiyam.
77. Kottapatnam ..	Do. ..	Do. ..	Kottapatnam.
78. Nelaturpalaiyam ..	Do. ..	Nellore ..	Nelaturpalaiyam.
79. Prayagi ..	Ganjam ..	Chatrapur ..	Prayagi.
80. Gopalpur ..	Do. ..	Berhampur ..	Revugopalpur.
81. Markandi ..	Do. ..	Do. ..	Markandi.
82. Patisonapur ..	Do. ..	Do. ..	Patisonapur.
83. Peddakarivanipalam.	Do. ..	Do. ..	Peddakarivanipalam.
84. Iskalapalam ..	Do. ..	Do. ..	Iskalapalam.
85. Baruva ..	Do. ..	Sompeta ..	Baruva.
86. Battigallur ..	Do. ..	Do. ..	Battigallur.
87. Gedduru ..	Do. ..	Do. ..	Gedduru.
88. Althada ..	Do. ..	Tekkili ..	Revunalthada.
89. Pundi ..	Do. ..	Do. ..	Nooval Revu.
90. Manchineelapeta ..	Do. ..	Do. ..	Manchineelapeta.
91. Guppipidipeta ..	Do. ..	Narasannapeta ..	Koduru Madura Guppipidipeta.
92. Calingapatam ..	Do. ..	Chicacole ..	Maohalesam (Calingapatam union).
93. Komaravanipeta ..	Do. ..	Do. ..	Komaravanipeta.
94. Pukkilipeta ..	Do. ..	Do. ..	Pukkilipeta.
95. Mukkum ..	Vizagapatam ..	Bimlipatam ..	Mukkum.
96. Bimlipatam ..	Do. ..	Do. ..	Bimlipatam.
97. Kothuru ..	Do. ..	Do. ..	Kothuru (Chapalup-peta).
98. Montgomari-peta ..	Do. ..	Do. ..	Montgomari-peta.
99. Lawson's Bay ..	Do. ..	Vizagapatam ..	Waltair.
100. Gangavaram ..	Do. ..	Do. ..	Gangavaram.
101. Jalaripeta ..	Do. ..	Anakapalli ..	Jalaripeta.
102. Padimadakka ..	Do. ..	Sarvasiddhi ..	Padimadakka.
103. Polavaram ..	Do. ..	Do. ..	Revu Polavaram.
104. Raziah-peta ..	Do. ..	Do. ..	Raziah-peta.
105. Pentakota ..	Do. ..	Do. ..	Pentakota.
106. Konapapapeta ..	East Godavari ..	Pittapuram ..	Ponnada.
107. Uppada ..	Do. ..	Do. ..	Uppada.
108. Mulapetta ..	Do. ..	Do. ..	Mulapetta.

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APPENDIX IV.

[Vide answer to question No. 411 asked by Mr. K. R. Karant at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on the 19th March 1927, page 449 supra.]

Statement showing the number of patients treated for malaria in the medical institutions of South Kanara district.

Years.	Sulita	Kasaragod.	Hosdurg.	Manjeshwar.	Headquarter Hospital.	Women and Children Hospital.	Puthur.	Moolky.	Peltangadi.	Moodabidri.	Karkal.	Udipi.	Bantwal	Coondapoor.	Baindur.	Total.
1900	..	..	..	..	..	275	788	1,080	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
1901	..	..	..	..	..	124	991	..	..	..	1,139	2,074	..	..	..	..
1902	..	..	..	..	..	73	878	..	..	..	1,712	2,958	..	..	..	..
1903	..	..	..	..	..	180	878	1,853	..	..	2,654	2,419	..	..	..	..
1904	..	..	..	..	..	109	1,450	1,593	..	1,470	3,001	922	..	..	..	..
1905	..	..	..	..	..	90	1,374	..	..	617	1,129	877	..	..	..	..
1906	..	..	..	..	..	88	1,492	727	..	1,162	2,575	..	..	..	..	..
1907	..	..	..	..	..	147	2,372	1,205	3,100	848	3,186	2,580	..	..	..	..
1908	734	914	1,004	..	..	183	1,503	1,146	1,754	..	2,582	2,583	..	..	..	..
1909	537	597	708	..	..	107	1,015	786	1,676	500	1,449	1,084	..	..	1,643	..
1910	2,760	753	..	..	..	76	2,115	1,451	2,355	1,744	2,631	2,383	2,425	..	2,182	..
1911	1,639	937	1,130	1,255	..	100	2,611	1,671	2,766	2,985	4,677	3,954	5,214	..	3,100	..
1912	2,040	986	1,572	1,177	..	149	1,663	861	2,159	1,631	2,540	1,561	..	..	1,428	..
1913	1,109	1,035	1,290	1,128	..	134	1,229	766	1,848	962	1,754	1,363	2,648	..	1,641	..
1914	1,445	1,101	978	1,084	..	118	1,021	681	2,147	780	1,746	1,125	2,568	..	1,326	..
1915	1,648	1,053	1,048	1,122	..	79	1,654	963	2,195	823	1,896	2,015	1,443	..	1,498	..
1916	1,221	732	611	994	..	172	1,648	1,122	2,147	1,627	2,766	2,440	1,413	..	2,418	..
1917	1,497	461	451	532	..	140	1,671	773	3,088	801	807	1,731	3,575	1,257	2,069	..
1918	2,068	534	298	391	..	114	1,017	828	2,955	639	1,014	1,368	5,151	2,080	1,883	..
1919	2,577	695	492	474	..	113	782	694	1,967	440	609	662	4,352	829	1,126	..
1920	3,820	734	476	448	..	141	1,005	1,222	2,305	493	764	1,645	3,535	1,496	2,285	..
1921	3,007	973	493	451	..	93	1,016	1,158	1,839	530	743	1,127	3,211	1,402	1,940	..
1922	3,257	1,014	984	528	..	140	1,278	1,466	3,221	611	1,515	1,491	2,508	1,491	1,716	..
1923	2,613	940	1,404	570	1,574	171	1,760	1,746	6,343	1,233	2,337	1,652	5,674	2,016	2,423	38,756
1924	4,929	1,493	2,425	801	2,362	320	5,052	2,116	10,279	2,374	3,089	2,431	8,978	2,762	2,297	50,914
1925	4,393	1,572	2,576	1,587	3,306	293	6,482	2,698	11,003	4,214	4,405	5,318	5,733	5,045	5,657	64,312
1926	5,380	1,341	2,414	1,338	2,529	187	4,704	3,721	10,131	3,050	4,668	5,858	5,189	4,521	4,052	59,183

(...) Not available.

THE MADRAS LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

Monday, the 21st March 1927.

The House met at 11 o'clock, Mr. President (the hon. Rao Bahadur C. V. S. NARASIMHA RAJU Garu) in the chair.

PRESENT:

- | | |
|--|---|
| Ramaswami Ayyar, K.C.I.E., The hon. Sir C. P. Marjoribanks, C.S.I., C.I.E., The hon. Mr. N. E. Usman Sahib Bahadur, The hon. Khan Bahadur Muhammad. | Marudavanam Pillai, Mr. C. |
| Moir, C.S.I., C.I.E., The hon. Mr. T. E. Subbarayan, The hon. Dr. P. Ranganatha Mudaliyar, The hon. Mr. A. Arogyaswami Mudaliyar, The hon. Diwan Bahadur K. N. | Meera Ravuttar Bahadur, K. P. V. S. Muhammad. |
| Abbas Ali Khan Bahadur. | Moore, C.I.E., Mr. P. L. |
| Abdul Hamid Khan Sahib Bahadur. | Muniswami Nayudu, Rao Bahadur B. |
| Abdul Wahab Sahib Bahadur, Munshi. | Muniswami Pillai, Mr. V. I. |
| Adinarayana Chettiyar, Mr. T. | Muppil Nayar of Kavalappara, Mr. |
| Anjaneyulu, Mr. P. | Muttayya Mudaliyar, Mr. S. |
| Appavu Chettiyar, Mr. C. D. | Muthulakshmi Reddi, Dr. (Mrs.). |
| Ari Gowder, Mr. H. B. | Muthuranga Mudaliyar, Mr. C. N. |
| Arpudaswami Udayar, Mr. S. | Nagan Gowda, Mr. R. |
| Basheer Ahmad Sayeed Sahib Bahadur. | Nanjappa Bahadur, Subadar-Major S. A. |
| Bazl-ul-Jah Sahib Bahadur, C.I.E., C.N.E., Khan Bahadur Muhammad. | Narayana Raju, Mr. D. |
| Bhaktavatsulu Nayudu, Mr. P. | Narayana Rao, Mr. M. |
| Bheemayya, Mr. J. | Narayanan Chettiyar, Mr. Al. Ar. |
| Biswanath Das Mahasayo, Sriman. | Narayanan Nambudripad, Rao Bahadur O. M. |
| Boag, Mr. G. T. | Narayanaswami Pillai, Mr. T. M. |
| Chidambaranatha Mudaliyar, Mr. T. K. | Obi Reddi, Mr. C. |
| Congreve, Mr. C. R. T. | Pandurang Rao, Mr. V. |
| Cotterelli, C.I.E., Mr. C. B. | Parasurama Rao Pantulu, Mr. A. |
| Dorai Raja, Mr. S. N. | Parthasarathi Ayyangar, Mr. C. R. |
| Ethirajulu Nayudu, Diwan Bahadur P. C. | Patro, Kt. Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. |
| Ganadhara Siva, Mr. M. V. | Premayya, Mr. G. R. |
| Gnanavaran Pillai, Mr. | Raja of Panagal, K.C.I.E. |
| Gopala Menon, Mr. C. | Raja of Ramnad. |
| Govindaraja Mudaliyar, Mr. C. S. | Rajan, Mr. P. T. |
| Guruswami, Rao Sahib L. C. | Ramaachandra Padayach', Mr. K. |
| Hall, C.B.E., Mr. J. F. | Ramaachandra Reddi, Mr. B. |
| Harisarvottama Rao, Mr. G. | Ramanath Goenka, Mr. |
| Hearson, Mr. H. F. P. | Ramaswami Ayyar, Mr. U. |
| John, Mr. V. Ch. | Ratnasabapati Mudaliyar, Rao Bahadur O. S. |
| Kaleswara Rao, Mr. A. | Sahajanandam, Swami A. S. |
| Kameswara Rao Nayudu, Mr. V. | Saldanha, Mr. J. A. |
| Karant, Mr. K. R. | Sami Venkatachalam Chetti, Mr. |
| Khadir Mohidin Sahib Bahadur, Muhammad. | Sarabha Reddi, Mr. K. |
| Koti Reddi, Mr. K. | Satyamurti, Mr. S. |
| Krishnan, Mr. K. | Saturatnam Ayyar, Mr. M. R. |
| Krishnan Nayar, Diwan Bahadur M. | Shetty, Mr. A. B. |
| Krishnaswami Nayakar, Mr. K. V. | Sitarama Reddi, Rao Bahadur K. |
| Kumara Raja of Venkatagiri. | Siva Raj, Mr. N. |
| Kumaraswami Reddiyar, Diwan Bahadur S. | Sivasubrahmanya Ayyar, Mr. K. S. |
| Kuppuswami, Mr. J. | Slater, C.I.E., Mr. S. H. |
| MacDougall, Kt., Sir Alexander. | Smith, Mr. J. Mackenzie. |
| Madhavan Nayar, Mr. K. | Soundara Pandia Nadar, Mr. W. P. A. |
| Mahmud Shammad Sahib Bahadur. | Srinivasa Ayyangar, Mr. R. |
| Mallayya, Mr. B. S. | Srinivasa Ayyangar, Mr. T. O. |
| Manikkavelu Nayakar, Mr. M. A. | Srinivasan, Rao Sahib R. |
| | Subrahmanya Moopanar, Mr. S. |
| | Subrahmanya Pillai, Mr. Chavadi K. |
| | Sundaramurti Pillai, Rao Sahib P. V. S. |
| | Swami, Mr. K. V. R. |
| | Syed Ibrahim Sahib Bahadur. |
| | Tajudin Sahib Bahadur, Syed. |

[21st March 1927]

PRESENT—cont.

Thomas, Mr. Daniel.
 Tulasiram, Mr. L. K.
 Uppi Sahib Bahadur, K.
 Vanavudaiya Goundar, Mr. S. V.
 Venkatapati Raju, Mr. P. O.
 Venkatarama Ayyar, Mr. K. R.
 Venkatarama Sastri, c.i.e., Mr. T. R.
 Venkataramana Ayyangar, Mr. C. V.

Venkataramam Nayudu, Mr. C.
 Venkataratnam Mr. B.
 Venkiah, Mr. S.
 Wood, Mr. C. E.
 Zamindar of Gollapalli.
 Zamindar of Mirzapuram.
 Zamindar of Seithur.

I

NEW MEMBER.

Mr. GNANAVARAM PILLAI made the prescribed oath and took his seat.

II

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

[Order made by the President of the Madras Legislative Council under Standing Order No. 15.]

1. Starred questions to be put at a meeting of the Council with their answers shall be printed and placed on the Council table an hour before the President takes his seat.

The President will call out the name of each interpellator in the order in which the names are printed, specify the serial number of his question and make a sufficient pause to give him or any other member a reasonable opportunity of rising in his place and putting a supplementary question. Supplementary questions must be put immediately after the principal questions to which they relate.

2. If a member responsible for a starred question happens to be absent when it is called, it will be open either to him or to any other member to put supplemental questions thereon after the other starred questions for the day have been answered, provided question-time is not thereby exceeded.

3. Questions, not starred, will not be called in Council, but they will be printed with their answers and placed on the table of the House along with the list of starred questions. Oral supplementary questions will not be allowed in regard to unstarred questions.]

STARRED QUESTIONS

Industries

Transport and hiring charges for the power-boring plants.

* 420 Q.—Mr. T. ADINARAYANA CHETTIYAR : Will the hon. the Minister for Development be pleased to state—

(a) what are the charges for moving one of the newly-purchased power-boring plant to a ryot's holding, on his application;

(b) how many applications have been received for their use and how many have been complied with;

(c) whether Government are aware that the generality of the Madras ryots consider the present transport and hire charges fixed by the Department for the hire of these power-boring plants are unduly heavy and beyond the means of the ordinary ryot;

(d) what is the basis on which the present rates are fixed; and

(e) what objections Government have to lowering the present transport and hiring charges for these power-boring plants?

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A.—(a) A transport charge of Rs. 75.

(b) Applications are not made for new power drills as such but for the services of a power drill. The new power drills have been utilized in complying with seven applications.

(c) There is a feeling on the part of some of the ryots that the rates of hire should be reduced.

(d) The transport charges have been fixed with reference to railway freight while the fee for the use of the plants which is Rs. 6 a day subject to a minimum of Rs. 30 is intended to cover the hire of the drill and the wages of the trained staff necessary for its working.

(e) The question of reducing the fees is under consideration.

Mr. T. ADINARAYANA CHETTIYAR :—" Sir, is there any discretion vested in the Director of Industries to reduce these charges ? "

The hon. Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—" Yes, Sir."

Mr. T. ADINARAYANA CHETTIYAR :—" And to waive them also in the case of poor applicants ? "

The hon. Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—" Yes, Sir."

Mr. T. ADINARAYANA CHETTIYAR :—" Whether any applications were received to that effect ? "

The hon. Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—" None, so far."

Mr. T. ADINARAYANA CHETTIYAR :—" If applications are received, are the Government prepared to waive the charge ? "

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" That is an hypothetical question."

Sriman BISWANATH DAS Mahasayo :—" May I know the average depth the plant is able to bore in the case of rocky soils ? "

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" The question put is foreign to the subject-matter of the question answered. The original question is only regarding rates. Does the hon. Member propose to put any supplementary question regarding the rates in the rocky soil ? "

Sriman BISWANATH DAS Mahasayo :—" Is this rate that is given the same for all districts or does it depend upon the distance ? "

The hon. Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—" I think I have already answered it, Sir, previously. It does not vary from district to district."

Sriman BISWANATH DAS Mahasayo :—" May I know whether he proposes to remit the charges in case the power plant does not strike the necessary water that is required for the ryot ? "

The hon. Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—" The hon. Member will be pleased to know that it is one of the matters I am considering with reference to what I said, on a previous occasion."

The RAJA OF RAMNAD :—" Is this power given to the Director of Industries to reduce the fee or to forego it made known to the public ? "

The hon. Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—" Yes, Sir."

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Mr. ABDUL HAMID KHAN :—" May I know how many such plants are there in the possession of Government ? "

The hon. Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—" There are nine power drills."

Mr. ABDUL HAMID KHAN :—" May I know if any of them is placed in the Cosmopolitan Club."

The hon. Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—" I have not seen it. If the hon. Member says so, I have to take it."

Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR :—" May I know whether there is a proposal to completely return the hiring charges or to reduce them substantially in the case of experiments which prove useless ? "

The hon. Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—" As I said in reply to Mr. Biswanath Das, that matter is under consideration."

Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR :—" I simply want to know in view of the approaching dry season whether the decision of the Government will be arrived at before the close of this session."

The hon. Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—" Certainly, Sir. I will see that there is no avoidable delay."

Education

Representation of the Muhammadan community in the Madras Educational Service.

* 421 Q.—Mr. K. ABDUL HYE SAHIB : Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government are aware that recently when some eight posts were newly created in the Madras Educational Service, a Muhammadan gentleman was also taken in as a representative of the community ;

(b) if so, whether they are also aware that just after three months, the said gentleman was reverted to the subordinate service ;

(c) whether the Muhammadan community is now adequately represented in the Madras Educational Service, and if so, how ?

A.—(a) A senior Muhammadan officer in the cadre of Deputy Inspectors of Schools, was appointed to officiate as District Educational Officer in the Madras Educational Service in the consequential arrangements made to fill the places of the officers permanently promoted to the eight posts in question.

(b) Yes, as a permanent Madras Educational Service officer returned from leave and as the Muhammadan officer was then the most junior officer among officiating District Educational Officers.

(c) The attention of the hon. Member is invited to the answer to clause (c) of question No. 232 asked at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on the 4th March 1927.

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Overlapping of elementary schools.

* 422 Q.—Mr. A. B. SHETTY: Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) how many of the District Educational Councils have laid down courses of study and prescribed text-books for the schools within their jurisdiction;

(b) what is the distance limit generally fixed between an existing elementary school and a new elementary school that is to be given recognition;

(c) what is the distance limit generally fixed between two similar higher elementary schools; and

(d) whether any specific instructions will be issued to Educational Councils in the matter of preventing overlapping of educational effort?

A.—(a) District Educational Councils have not been empowered to prescribe text-books. The Government have not got complete information in regard to the District Educational Councils which have prescribed courses of studies.

(b), (c) & (d) No distance limit has been prescribed. The attention of the hon. Member is referred to rule 1 of the rules framed under section 41 (2) of the Madras Elementary Education Act, 1920, and to the draft addition to that rule published in notification No. 396, dated 1st December 1926, on pages 659–660 of Part I-B of the *Fort St. George Gazette*, dated 28th December 1926. The question of confirming the draft rule is under consideration.

Mr. A. B. SHETTY:—"The hon. the Education Minister is not here, Sir, for me to put a question."

The hon. the PRESIDENT:—"Was any other Member of the Cabinet requested by the hon. the Education Minister to answer on his behalf?"

The hon. Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR:—"I take it that, if I am in a position to answer, I can do it."

The hon. the PRESIDENT:—"I want to know whether the hon. the Education Minister has requested any of the hon. Members of the Government to reply on his behalf?"

The hon. Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR:—"I have a kind of general authority, Sir, to do so."

Mr. A. B. SHETTY:—"May I know whether it is not one of the primary functions of the District Educational Council to fix the courses of study for elementary schools?"

The hon. Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR:—"I shall be obliged if notice is given of the question."

Number of schools opened since 1922–23.

* 423 Q.—Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. PATRO: Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Local Self-Government be pleased to state the total number of schools newly opened since 1922–23 up to date in accordance with the recommendations of the Ootacamund Conference, under the agency

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of (1) local boards, (2) aided agency and (3) panchayat and the total number of boys and girls receiving education since then, in each of the districts of the Presidency and the total number of increase in each district since 1922?

A.—Subsidies were sanctioned to local bodies towards the opening of 825 new schools in 1924-25, 1,469 schools in 1925-26 and 566 schools in 1926-27. Funds were placed at the disposal of District Educational Councils for the payment of grants-in-aid to 478 new schools to be started under private management in 1925-26, and 642 new schools in 1926-27. A special allotment was placed at the disposal of the Registrar-General of Panchayats in 1926-27 for the opening of 300 schools through the agency of village panchayats. The Government have no information as to the number of schools actually opened by the different agencies. The latest information available in regard to the number of boys and girls under instruction in each district in the Presidency is for the year 1925-26. A statement comparing the number of pupils on the 31st March 1923 with that on the 31st March 1926 is laid on the table.^a

Local Boards

Nomination of an Indian Christian to the District Board of Trichinopoly.

* 424 Q.—MR. S. ARPUDASWAMI UDAYAR: Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether any Indian Christian has been nominated to the District Board of Trichinopoly, and if so, when;

(b) how many Muhammadans and Adi-Dravidas have been nominated to represent those minorities in the said district board; and

(c) what is the total strength in the district of each of these three minority communities: Indian Christians, Muhammadans and Adi-Dravidas, respectively?

A.—(a) No.

(b) Two Muhammadans and one Adi-Dravida were appointed. The term of one of the Muhammadan members has, however, expired in February last.

(c) Indian Christians	...	...	...	...	90,952
Muhammadans	...	...	...	...	63,931
Adi-Dravidas	..	...	...	...	349,508

MR. S. ARPUDASWAMI UDAYAR :—“ May I know whether the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government is seriously thinking of appointing an Indian Christian? ”

The hon. Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—“ Surely, Sir. We always bear it in mind. ”

MR. S. ARPUDASWAMI UDAYAR :—“ May I ask him whether the difficulty arises from want of vacancy? ”

The hon. Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—“ That might be one of the reasons. ”

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Municipal Councils

Enhancement of taxes in Gudiyattam.

* 425 Q.—MR. T. ADINARAYANA CHETTIYAR: Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that the present Chairman of the Municipal Council, Gudiyattam, North Arcot district, has recently enhanced the property and professional taxes of several people who are members of the Congress Sabha there;

(b) whether this action on the part of the Chairman was due to the refusal of the Congress Party at Gudiyattam to help him in his candidature at the last general elections; and

(c) whether the Government will interfere in the matter and cancel such enhancements?

A.—(a) & (b) The Government have no information.

(c) The Government cannot interfere in the matter.

MR. T. ADINARAYANA CHETTIYAR:—“In view of the fact that the taxes on the members of the Congress Sabhas have been increased on account of party and political reasons, will the Government be pleased to obtain the information?”

THE HON. MR. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR:—“I hope, Sir, that the higher tax is only for sufficient income.”

MR. T. ADINARAYANA CHETTIYAR:—“The tax has been raised eight or nine times only on the members of the Congress Sabhas.”

THE HON. THE PRESIDENT:—“The hon. Member is giving information.”

THE HON. MR. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR:—“May I say that there is a remedy for it by way of appeal?”

MR. T. ADINARAYANA CHETTIYAR:—“The Chairman and his party who are Justicites are numerically strong and hence the discriminating levy of the tax.”

RAO BHADUR C. S. RATNASABAPATI MUDALIYAR:—“May I know whether the rates of property tax and profession tax are not the same for all people in the municipality?”

THE HON. MR. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR:—“No invidious distinction is made.”

MR. T. ADINARAYANA CHETTIYAR:—“In the particular case, an invidious distinction is made. That is the complaint. Will the Government be pleased to enquire into the matter?”

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—“I shall have the matter enquired into.”

Audit

Transfer of Inspectors of Local Fund Accounts.

* 426 Q.—MR. J. A. DAVIS: Will the hon. the Member for Finance be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that during the short period of one year 1926, there have been four District Inspectors of Local Fund Accounts posted to Coimbatore district;

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(b) whether Government are not put to additional expenditure in the shape of travelling allowance by such frequent transfers; and

(c) whether there is any period prescribed for which an officer of this department should remain in a particular district?

A.—(a) Yes. The transfers were made for the following reasons:—

The first was due to the grant of leave to the District Inspector, who had been in the district for over two years. The second because the officiating District Inspector had to revert to his permanent post as clerk on the return of a permanent District Inspector from leave, and the third, as the District Inspector was required to take charge of the Tanjore district, the previous District Inspector of Tanjore having been promoted as officiating Assistant Examiner.

(b) Additional expenditure is incurred in accordance with the Travelling Allowance Rules.

(c) No period is prescribed.

Appointment of a committee of non-officials to visit and report on the Andamans Colonization.

* 427 Q.—MR. K. R. KARANT: In the light of the speeches made by the hon. the Home Member and the hon. the Member for Finance in the Council on 27th January 1927 that the Mappilla prisoners have gone to the Andamans on a purely voluntary basis and that the conditions of life in the Andamans are satisfactory, etc., will the hon. the Home Member, the hon. the Member for Finance, the hon. the Member for Revenue and the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Madras Government is prepared to allow or to arrange for the visit of such of the non-official Members of this Council who are willing to go to the Andamans at their own expense and see the conditions of things for themselves; and

(b) whether the Government is prepared to appoint a committee of the non-official Members of this Council to be elected by the Council to visit the island and to submit a report to the Council on the advisability or otherwise of this scheme?

A.—(a) As the Andamans Administration is under the control of the Government of India the Local Government have no authority to permit the visit of non-official Members of the Madras Legislative Council to the islands.

(b) In view of answer to (a), the question does not arise.

MR. K. R. KARANT:—"In view of the feeling in this province may I ask the hon. Member whether this Government is prepared to negotiate with the Imperial Government about the visit of non-official Members to Andamans?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—"Sir, it is not open to this Government to negotiate in this matter. I think the hon. Member can apply to the Government of India direct if he wants."

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Mr. ABDUL HAMID KHAN :—“ Under what authority are the Mappilla women and children sent to the Andamans ? Is it under the authority of the Government of Madras or the Government of India ? ”

The hon. Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—“ The Government of Madras with the consent of the Government of India.”

Mr. T. ADINARAYANA CHETTIYAR :—“ In view of the answer given by the hon. the Home Member, may I ask whether this Government has given up once for all its right to take care of the welfare of the people whom it sends out in such steamer-loads, prisoners though they may be ? ”

Emigration

Origin and scope of the Andamans Colonization scheme.

* 428 Q.—Mr. K. R. KARANT : Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

- (a) when the Andamans Colonization scheme was started ;
- (b) whether it was intended from the very commencement to apply for all classes of prisoners in Indian jails without any special reference to Mappilla prisoners ; and
- (c) if there have been any changes in the scheme, what they are and when they have been introduced ?

A.—(a), (b) & (c) The scheme was formulated in 1921 when the Government of India decided to stop transporting prisoners to the Andamans and was at first confined to the convicts who were already in the islands. In 1922 transportation to the Andamans was permitted as a special measure in the case of Mappilla prisoners sentenced to that form of punishment and a number of these prisoners were subsequently allowed to settle in the islands as colonists. In December 1925 the Government of India decided to throw open for colonization the Andaman Islands to all classes of prisoners in Indian jails.

As regards the changes introduced attention is invited to paragraphs 6 to 8 and 11 of the Government of India notification No. F. 20/26-Jails, dated 27th February 1926, and to paragraph 10 of their notification No. F. 188/24-Jails, dated 4th October 1926, copies of which have been placed on the Council table.

Forests

Area of disafforested forests in Kurnool district.

* 429 Q.—Mr. G. HARISAVOTTAMA RAO : Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state how many forest areas within one mile of villages in the Kurnool district have been disafforested since the issue of G.O. No. 1933, Development, dated 14th October 1921, and the aggregate area of forests thus disafforested ?

A.—A statement furnishing the information is appended.*

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Report from the Chief Conservator of Forests.

* 430 Q.—Mr. T. ADINARAYANA CHETTIYAR: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state with reference to the answer to question No. 46 17 answered on 25th January 1927—

(a) whether Government have passed final orders on the report of the Chief Conservator on the question;

(b) whether Government called for reports from Conservators on the same question; and

(c) if so, whether the reports together with the report of the Chief Conservator and the Government orders thereon will be placed on the Table of this House?

A—(a) No.

(b) No.

(c) The question of placing the Chief Conservator's report together with the Government's orders thereon on the Council Table will be considered when final orders are passed.

Report from the Forest Officer, South Vellore.

* 431 Q.—Mr. T. ADINARAYANA CHETTIYAR: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state with reference to the answer to question No. 46 17 answered on 25th January 1927, whether Government will place on the Table of this House the report of the enquiry held by the District Forest Officer, South Vellore, asked for in my interpellation No. 47 32 answered on 25th January 1927?

A.—The hon. Member's attention is invited to the answer to clause (c) of Legislative Council question No. 430.

Survey*Resurvey in Kasaragod taluk.*

* 432 Q.—Mr. A. B. SHETTY: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether in the resurvey of Kasaragod taluk in South Kanara holdings belonging to different persons have been clubbed together, and joint rough pattas have been issued in places where there are no clear boundary marks;

(b) if so, whether the fields so clubbed together have to be again subdivided to show each man's holdings separately, and whether in such cases the ryots are compelled to pay subdivision fees once more; and

(c) what is the difficulty in forming sub-divisions on the basis of the existing survey records in such cases?

A.—(a) Such a course would be in accordance with the rules.

(b) The reference to the payment of subdivision fees *once more* is not understood. In any case, such fees are charged only for sub-divisions made during the currency of a settlement and not for those made at a settlement.

(c) As the resurvey is being made because the existing survey records have been found defective and inaccurate, to follow the course suggested would be to fudge.

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Civil Justice

Revision of the salaries of process-servers.

* 433 Q.—MR. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether there is any proposal to revise the scale of salaries of process-servers;

(b) whether any memorial has been received from some process-servers regarding this matter; and

(c) whether any organization scheme is likely to be introduced in the near future?

A.—(a), (b) & (c) It is understood that certain memorials from process-servers have been received by the High Court and that the question referred to is under the consideration of the hon. the Judges.

Irrigation

Opening of new canals in Kistna Eastern delta division.

* 434 Q.—THE ZAMINDAR OF GOLLAPALLI: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether there are any proposals to open new canals in the Kistna Eastern delta division;

(b) what are the courses of the proposed canals;

(c) through what villages the canals would pass;

(d) how many acres they would irrigate;

(e) what would be the initial expenditure;

(f) what would be the probable income that can be derived from the water-cess excluding mamul wet; and

(g) if there were proposals and if they have been given up, the cause of abandoning the schemes?

A.—As already intimated to the hon. Member by the Secretary, Public Works and Labour Department, proposals are at present under investigation for extending the East Bank canal and providing channels for the Vempad block comprising an area of about 4,500 acres and an additional extent of about 17,000 acres lying on the north of the Masulipatam-Nadakuduru road to start with. Further particulars in respect of these proposals will become available after the investigation has been completed.

Cost of the drag line excavator on the Yenamadurru drain.

* 435 Q.—MR D. NARAYANA RAJU: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(a) when the drag line excavator was brought to work on the Yenamadurru drain in the Godavari Western delta;

(b) what was the initial cost of the said machine;

(c) what amount was spent up to now in working the said machine;

(d) what amount of work it has turned out up to now;

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(e) what is the actual expenditure per unit of work turned out by the said machine; and

(f) how it compares with the expenditure on work turned out by manual labour?

A.—(a) The erection of the machine at site was completed in January 1924.

(b) Rupees 47,415.

(c), (d), (e) & (f) The Government have called for the information.

Mr. D. NARAYANA RAJU :—" With reference to the answer to clause (b), does that sum, viz., Rs. 47,415, include the cost of setting up the machine? "

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—" Yes "

Mr. D. NARAYANA RAJU :—" Are the Government aware that for a long period in the year the machine is not in a position to work, whether on account of repairs or on account of the state of water in the drain? "

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—" It was so on the last occasion when I was asked certain questions regarding this excavator. At the present moment, it can work "

Mr. D. NARAYANA RAJU :—" May I know why the Government did not try to inquire whether the working of the machinery is economical or not, and as to how the work of the machinery compares with the work done by manual labour? "

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—" As I have already said, we have called for information, and on the basis of the figures that reach us, we shall come to a decision on the matter referred to in clauses (c), (d), (e) & (f). "

Mr. D. NARAYANA RAJU :—" In view of the fact that the Government proposes to try the excavators in other parts of the Presidency, why did not the Government so far find out whether working by excavators is economical or not? "

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—" Excavators in other parts of the Presidency have been used for different purposes, that is for excavating canals, under different circumstances altogether. No doubt, this information also will be useful. That is why we have called for it. "

Distribution of water in times of scarcity.

* 436 Q. —Mr. S. MUTTAIYA MUDALIYAR. Will the hon. the Law Member and the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether an order has been passed that in times of scarcity, water ought to be diverted for three days to the river Manniar, and allowed in the Cauvery for the remaining four days only;

(b) if so, whether the mirasidars likely to be affected by the order were consulted;

(c) on what basis was this distribution of three days and four days arrived at; and

(d) whether the Government will hear the mirasidars concerned and then settle a *morat* (turn) for distribution of water during times of scarcity?

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A.—The Government have no information. A report has been called for.

Expenditure and revenue account relating to Dusi, Urlam and Wadada channels.

* 437 Q.—Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. PATRO: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(a) the expenditure and revenue account relating to Dusi, Urlam and Wadada channels as parts of Ganjam minor rivers system;

(b) whether the Government will be pleased to state the estimated cost of the proposed anicut or regulating dam to secure adequate supply of water to these channels; and

(c) the extent of lands irrigated under these channels and the extent of land that will be brought under second crop assessment?

A.—(a) The information is not available as capital and revenue accounts are not kept by individual channels but for the whole Ganjam minor rivers system.

(b) Rupees 6 lakhs as estimated in 1925.

(c) The present average first and second crop irrigation under the Dusi and Wadada channels is 14,792 acres and 1,093 acres respectively. The extent that can be newly brought under second crop under the anicut referred to in clause (b) is 2,000 acres.

Famine-relief works in Kistna delta.

* 438 Q.—The ZAMINDAR OF GOLLAPALLI: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state whether the Government propose to undertake the execution of the following schemes as famine-relief works:—

(a) High flood channel for Kistna river in the Kistna district from Ibrahimpetta through Ganapavaram, Idara, Ravicharla and Nuzvid giving its tail end to the villages of Ramileru valley; and

(b) constructing dykes to Seethavagu and Pamileru of Godavari in East Godavari district?

A.—(a) There is no such proposal before the Government.

(b) A staff of two overseers, 14 lascars and one boring maistri has been sanctioned for the investigation of a reservoir across the Seethapalli vagu above Ramanayyapetta village, East Godavari district. The question of taking up the scheme depends on the results of the investigation.

The ZAMINDAR OF GOLLAPALLI:—“Will the Government be pleased to call for information whether such a scheme or one of a similar nature to supply Kistna water to the non-deltaic portions of the Kistna district would be possible?”

The hon. Sir O. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR:—“At present, there is no proposal. But if the hon. Member gives particulars of what he is contemplating, Government would have no objection to call for information.”

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Police*Bucket shops in the City.*

* 439 Q.—Mr. ABDUL HAMID KHAN : With reference to the answer given to question No 1758 on 24th March 1926, will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state what steps the Government have taken or propose to take to put down bucket shops in the City ?

A.—The attention of the hon Member is invited to the answer given to clause (c) of question No 294.

Mr. ABDUL HAMID KHAN —“ May I know from the hon. the Law Member how soon it would be possible for the Government to put a stop to this ? ”

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR —“ As will be apparent from the previous answer, Sir, a Bill is now ready, and it will be introduced on the next available opportunity as a Government Bill.”

Mr. ABDUL HAMID KHAN :—“ May I know whether that Bill affects only the city or the whole province ? ”

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR —“ At present, we propose to legislate only for the city and see how it works, and if necessary, extend it. The Bill provides for a clause enabling extension.”

Mr. ABDUL HAMID KHAN :—“ May I know from the hon. the Law Member whether he is aware that if the city is the only place affected by the legislation, these bucket shops can be opened in the neighbourhood or in the vicinity of Madras, which will nullify the object of the law ? ”

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR —“ That point will be borne in mind. If the Bill comes up to a Select Committee, and if it is pointed out, as the hon Member has done, if legislation affects only Madras, there is nothing to prevent Poonamallee, for instance, being a centre—that matter will be considered.”

UNSTARRED QUESTIONS**Military***Strength of the Military stationed in this Presidency.*

440 Q.—Mr. K. V. R. SWAMI : Will the hon. the Member for Finance be pleased to state—

(a) what is the total strength of the Military ordinarily stationed in this Presidency ; and

(b) what are the several places where they are located and how many at each place ?

A.—(a) & (b) The hon. Member is referred to page 49 of the Indian Army List (latest edition). The Government have no further information.

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Factories

Working of the Russellkonda Saw Mill.

441 Q.—Mr. K. V. R. SWAMI: Will the hon. the Home Member and the hon. the Member for Finance be pleased to state—

(a) what is the capital expenditure incurred in connexion with the Russellkonda Saw Mill since it was started ;

(b) when was this Mill started ;

(c) what is the gain or loss for each year since it was started ;

(d) what is the total loss or gain ;

(e) whether in striking the balance any interest is allowed for the capital advanced under this head ;

(f) at what rate ; and

(g) whether any seigniorage is debited for the timber out and sold ?

A.—(a) The capital invested in the concern according to the audited balance sheet for the quarter ending 31st December 1926 is Rs. 4,34,880-13-9.

(b) The Mill started working in July 1922.

					RS.	A.	P.
(c)	1922-23	...	...	...	Loss	8,311	1 3
	1923-24	...	...	...	"	6,059	5 3
	1924-25	...	...	...	Profit	1,894	12 4
	1925-26	...	...	...	Loss	894	13 2

(d) The total loss is Rs. 13,370-7-4, but during the nine months from 1st April 1926 to 31st December 1926, the Mill has shown a profit of Rs. 11,565-4-6, after deducting interest due for that period

(e) No. In June 1926, the Government have directed that interest should be charged on the capital of Government in the accounts of the concern from its inception.

(f) The rate varies from year to year as follows :—

						PER CENT.
	1922-23	...	...	...	...	5.48
	1923-24	...	...	...	...	5.69
	1924-25	...	...	...	...	6.08
	1925-26	...	...	...	...	5.20

(g) Yes.

Constitution of Districts, Divisions and Taluks

Formation of the new Pamarru taluk.

442 Q.—Mr. A. KALESWARA RAO: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether representations have come to Government to reconsider the adding of some villages of Bezwada taluk to Gannavaram taluk, Kistna district, in connexion with the formation of the new Pamarru taluk ; and

(b) whether the Government have received representations to keep all the villages of the Kankipad firka situated to the east of Bezwada and to the

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south of the Ryves canal or at least those which are within ten miles from Bezwada in the east in Bezwada taluk itself, on the ground that that arrangement would be much more convenient to ryots in various ways?

A.—(a) & (b) No representations on these points have been received after the publication of G.O. No. 502, Revenue, dated 31st March 1925.

III

COMMUNICATIONS TO THE COUNCIL.

The Secretary laid on the Table copies of the ^aProceedings of the tenth meeting of the Finance Committee for 1926-27 held on Monday the 14th March 1927.

[*Note.*—An asterisk (*) at the commencement of a speech indicates revision by the Member.]

IV

MOTIONS ON THE BUDGET FOR 1927-28—*cont.*

DEMAND X—GENERAL ADMINISTRATION—SECRETARIATS—*cont.*

The debate on Mr. S. Satyamurti's motion to reduce the allotment of Rs. 74,900 for Chief Secretariat by Rs. 100 was resumed.

* The hon. Mr. N. E. MARJORIBANKS :—“ Mr. President, Sir, I am glad that we have come to a subject which unlike those which I have had to speak on in the course of the motions on this Demand is one that is, to some extent, within the powers of the local Government. If you look at the powers of the local Government, they are limited partly by statute and partly by statutory rules made by the Secretary of State. Further, I would like to point out that the question of the Indianization of the services has been dealt with by the Lee Commission, and that on this matter their unanimous recommendation in respect of the Indian Civil Service is that the recruitment should be 20 per cent from the Provincial Civil Service and of the balance 40 per cent and 40 per cent should consist of Europeans and Indians respectively. That is calculated to produce in 15, from now 14 years, a cadre of 50 per cent and 50 per cent. It is not practicable to lay down a fixed rule that the Secretaries should be in a certain proportion, that the Collectors should be in a certain proportion, or what the number of Europeans and Indians should be in each particular section. We must have for administrative purposes discretion to choose for these appointments those who are best fitted for the particular work. But lest the hon. Members should think that there has been some disproportion in regard to the number of Indians in the Secretariat, I would like to tell them that if you take the total number of those eligible for the appointment of Secretary, of 12 years' service and over—and I presume they would hardly expect our Secretaries to be appointed if of less than 12 years' service—in the executive rank omitting persons who already hold posts above the rank of Secretary and those who are serving elsewhere within this Presidency, we have 46 altogether in the Indian Civil Service and Provincial Civil Service of which 9 are Indians, and 2 out of 7 Secretaries are Indians. So the proportion is not unfair. I merely point that out to prevent misapprehension and not to support the idea that there should be any particular proportion in any particular branch. We must consider the individual qualifications and fitness of each man and therefore hon. Members must recognise that in the circumstances it

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[Mr. N. E. Marjoribanks]

is impossible to justify the present numbers without going into the cases of individual officers, which I think all would admit would be most undesirable. As time goes on and as the youngmen gain experience, the number of Indian Secretaries will naturally increase, and I do not think there need be any apprehension that the Secretariat will be maintained as a preserve either of one class or the other. I do not think I can usefully say anything more on the subject."

* Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR :—" I am surprised, Sir, that the hon. the Revenue Member gives us some hope of doing something probably about 20 years hence. He expects, under the present scale of recruitment, that within that period 50 per cent of the Civil Service officers will be Indians. But so far as this particular resolution is concerned, I do not think that it lays any special stress that the Secretaries should be Indian I.C.S. officers. The next point on which the hon. the Revenue Member was wrong was when he gave the figures only so far as the executive side of the Government was concerned. There is no reason why the large number of officers of the Judicial side should not be taken into consideration. In fact, one of the Indian Secretaries who has come from the Judicial side has done excellently well, so far as I know. Then, there is the Law Department which, I think, can well have a Secretary from the Judicial side. So far as the percentage of Indian Civil Service officers is concerned, I shall confine myself to this particular cut for the time being as I have given notices of other cuts on which I shall speak later on, it does not attempt at reducing the number of Indian Civil Service officers. All that we want here is that we should have more Indian officers. It does not matter whether these Indian officers are of the Indian Civil Service or Provincial Civil Service cadre. It is an anomaly that the Secretaries serving under and helping or advising the Minister should be of the European cadre. It is always better that some principle is laid down, and not to leave it to mere chance as the hon. the Revenue Member seems to think. At least the Secretaries in charge of the various departments under the control of the Ministers should ordinarily be Indians. I think that that will save a lot of difficulties that have recently been referred to in this Council and outside. Otherwise, it is impossible for these European Secretaries to understand the feelings and difficulties of the various Indian Ministers as regards the various departments under their management. The Secretary for Local Self-Government Department is an European and it has been so ever since the Reforms began. That department generally deals with Indians as a whole, and it is too much to suppose that an European, who is being changed year after year—probably there have been as many European Secretaries as there have been years or councils—could appreciate the difficulties either of the Ministers or the various persons that carry on this department. It is therefore necessary that once and for all a rule is made that this department should be managed only by Indian Secretaries.

"As regards the Law Department, which includes Education, the practice is generally to have an Indian Provincial Civil Service Secretary, but there was an attempt recently to put an Indian Civil Service officer probably an European. Therefore, it is desirable that some rule is made that for this department also, there should be an Indian as Secretary. There is no difficulty as to the proportion, because the number of appointments to be held by the Indian Civil Service cadre is fixed and it does not matter which place

[Mr. C. V. Venkataramana Ayyangar] [21st March 1927]

they fill. Curiously enough, the Registrar-General of Panchayats is an European according to the cadre; but it is an Indian who is holding the post at present. Therefore the Indian Civil Service cadre does not preclude any one appointment going to Provincial Civil Service officers. Therefore, with a view to carry on the work of the transferred subjects more efficiently and more satisfactorily, and with a view to satisfy the feelings and sentiments of a large section of this House—we have been raising this question year after year—I think the hon. the Revenue Member will have a consultation with his Colleagues and come to some conclusion either to-day or later on. We want some satisfaction, and if these ten days are passed over without giving any satisfactory answer, I think the dissatisfaction in the country and in this Council is bound to be very great. Therefore, I hope the Government and the House will unanimously accept this motion."

* The hon. Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN :—" Mr. President, I would not have intervened in this debate but for the remarks that fell from the hon. Member for the University and the hon. Member for Godavari East and the hon. Member who just preceded me on the floor of this House. About the exigencies of service, I have not a word to add to what the hon. Revenue Member has said. With regard to the point made by those hon. Members that European Secretaries go behind our back to His Excellency the Governor and get any order they like, I repudiate that suggestion here and now. As far as my experience goes, during the last four months, I have had nothing but loyalty from the Secretaries to the departments in my control, and I can say with all the emphasis at my command that I shall never have one better than my friend Mr. Cotterell and I doubt whether I will exchange him for any one in the Secretariat. With regard to the Law Secretary, he is an Indian, and as our friend Mr. Venkataramana Ayyangar pointed out, whether Indian or European, the Secretaries are all entitled to go to the Governor if they differ from the Minister; but they never have done it because the Ministers also are reasonable men. The exigencies of service demand that it is not possible to Indianize as rapidly as even the Government could wish. I have nothing more to add."

The motion was put and declared lost.

Mr. S. Satyamurti demand a poll and the House divided thus :—

11-30
a.m.

Ayes.

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| 1. Mr. H. B. Ari Gowder. | 18. K. P. V. S. Muhammad Meera Ravuttar Sahib Bahadur. |
| 2. " C. R. Parthasarathi Ayyangar. | 19. Mr. D. Narayana Raju. |
| 3. " T. C. Srinivasa Ayyangar. | 20. K. Uppi Sahib Bahadur. |
| 4. " Chavadi K. Subrahmanya Pillai. | 21. Mr. C. Obi Reddi. |
| 5. " K. R. Venkatarama Ayyar. | 22. " A. Parasurama Rao Pantulu. |
| 6. " Sami Venkatachalam Chetti. | 23. " U. Ramaswami Ayyar. |
| 7. " S. Satyamurti. | 24. " P. Bhaktavatsulu Nayudu. |
| 8. " C. V. Venkataramana Ayyangar. | 25. Sriman Biswanath Das Mahasayo. |
| 9. " T. Adinarayana Chettiyar. | 26. Mr. A. Kaleswara Rao. |
| 10. " P. Anjaneyulu. | 27. " K. Srinivasa Ayyangar. |
| 11. " S. Muttayya Mudaliyar. | 28. " V. Kameswara Rao Nayudu. |
| 12. " P. C. Venkatapati Raju. | 29. " B. Ramachandra Reddi. |
| 13. " C. S. Govindaraja Mudaliyar. | 30. " L. K. Tulasiram. |
| 14. " G. Harisaravottama Rao. | 31. " K. R. Karant. |
| 15. " C. N. Mutturanga Mudaliyar. | 32. " K. V. Krishnaswami Nayakar. |
| 16. " Abdul Hamid Khan. | 33. " K. Madhavan Nayyar. |
| 17. " K. V. B. Swami. | |

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Ayes—cont.

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| 34. Mr. C. Venkatarangam Nayudu. | 41. Muhammad Khadir Mohidin Sahib Bahadur. |
| 35. „ B. Venkataratnam. | 42. Diwan Bahadur S. Kumaraswami Reddiyar. |
| 36. Rao Bahadur C. S. Ratnasabapati Mudaliyar. | 43. Rao Bahadur B. Muniswami Nayudu. |
| 37. Diwan Bahadur M. Krishnan Nayr. | 44. Mr K. Sarabha Reddi. |
| 38. Mr. P. T. Rajan. | 45. Rao Bahadur K. Sitarama Reddi. |
| 39. „ T. K. Chidambaramatha Mudaliyar. | 46. Zamindar of Mirzapuram. |
| 40. Diwan Bahadur P. C. Ethirajulu Nayudu. | 47. Mr. J. Kuppuswami. |

Noes

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|---|---|
| 1. The hon. Sir C. P. Ramaswami Ayyar. | 17. The Zamindar of Seithur. |
| 2. „ Mr. N. E. Marjoribanks. | 18. Mr. C. D. Appavu Chettiyar. |
| 3. „ Khan Bahadur Muhammad Uman Sahib Bahadur. | 19. „ J. Bheemayya. |
| 4. „ Mr. T. E. Moir. | 20. „ V. Ch. John. |
| 5. „ Diwan Bahadur R. N. Arogyaswami Mudaliyar. | 21. „ R. Nagan Gowda. |
| 6. „ Mr. A. Ranganatha Mudaliyar. | 22. Sahadar-Major S. A. Nanjappa Bahadur. |
| 7. „ Dr. P. Subbarayan. | 23. Mr. N. Nivaraaj. |
| 8. Mr. T. R. Venkatarama Sastriyar. | 24. „ M. V. Gangadhara Siva. |
| 9. „ J. F. Hell. | 25. „ W. P. A. Soundarapandya Nadar. |
| 10. „ P. L. Moore. | 26. „ S. Venkayya. |
| 11. „ Gnanavaram Pillai. | 27. „ K. Krishnan. |
| 12. „ G. T. Boag. | 28. „ S. Arpudaswami Udayar. |
| 13. „ V. Pandrang Row. | 29. „ G. R. Premayya. |
| 14. „ S. H. Slater. | 30. Rao Sahib R. Srinivasan. |
| 15. „ C. B. Cotterell. | 31. Mr. C. E. Wood |
| 16. Khan Bahadur Muhammad Bazul-ul-lah Sahib Bahadur. | 32. „ V. I. Munisami Pillai. |
| | 33. The Raja of Rannad. |
| | 34. Mr. S. N. Dorai Raja. |

Neutral.

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| 1. Dr. (Mrs.) Muthulakshmi Reddi. | 6. Mr. D. Thomas. |
| 2. Mr. A. Balakrishna Shetti. | 7. „ S. V. Vanavudaiya Gounder. |
| 3. Mahmud Schamnad Sahib Bahadur. | 8. The Zamindar of Gollapalli. |
| 4. Rao Bahadur O. M. Narayana Nambudripad. | 9. The Raja of Panagal. |
| 5. Mr. T. M. Narayanaswami Pillai. | 10. Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. Patro. |

Ayes 47. Noes 34 Neutral 10.

The motion was carried.

* Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR :—“ Sir, I respectfully move

‘ that the allotment of Rs. 74,900 for Chief Secretariat be reduced by Rs 100.’

“ Sir, my object in moving this motion is to discuss the desirability of reducing the number of Indian Civil Service officers in the Presidency to half its present strength.

“ As I said before, the proposition that we have been already able to carry by a large majority relates to the question of Indianization, whether by Indian Civil Service or Provincial Civil Service officers. The present attempt is to induce the Government, if such a thing is possible, to make a serious attempt to reduce the number of Indian Civil Service officers in this Presidency. We have been told several times that the idea of Indianization as also that of retrenchment was being seriously considered. For instance, the hon. the Leader of the House used to say every year. I hope he would

[Mr. C. V. Venkataramana Ayyangar] [21st March 1927]

not repeat it this year—that he was making a serious attempt to reduce the number of appointments of district and sessions judges specially reserved for Indian Civil Service officers and that he wanted to get the permission of the Secretary of State to appoint men from the bar who had given complete satisfaction as District and Sessions Judges to a large number of those appointments reserved for Indian Civil Service officers. But I do not think that at present, so far as the facts that have been published are concerned, we have any hope of realizing that, at least through the hon. the Law Member. It is quite possible that he will give us some figures to show that the number of district judgeships held by Indians—non-Indian Civil Service officers—has been a little larger than before. I think that the proportion depends upon the total number of district judgeships. If the total number of district judgeships has been increased, naturally the small proportion given to Provincial Civil Service officers out of that total might have also gone up. But I challenge the hon. the Law Member to prove by figures that there has been increase in the proportion of district judgeships held by Provincial Civil Service officers. Sir, the number of gazetted officers is increasing by leaps and bounds and with it the number of Indian Civil Service officers also. I will be glad if the hon. the Revenue Member will give us the number of appointments reserved for Indian Civil Service officers twenty years back and the number now. That will be a satisfactory reply to my charge all these years.

“Sir, in this connexion, I would refer to some anomalies that now exist. Some appointments as heads of offices which ought to be filled by Indians as a matter of fact, have been reserved for Indian Civil Service officers although not necessarily European. For instance, who will ever dream that the Registrarship of Co-operative Societies should necessarily be filled by an Indian Civil Service officer, meaning in 90 cases out of 100, a European officer? I believe that a European Indian Civil Service officer has been occupying permanently that post practically from the beginning. No doubt, proofs have been given that Indians can satisfactorily occupy that post as non-Indian Civil Service officers have held that office as acting incumbents. Who will believe it if it is proclaimed that the post of Registrar-General of Panchayats is one reserved for Indian Civil Service men? The Registrar-General of Panchayats has nothing to do with big European firms, etc. He has to deal every day with small union members, taluk board members, district board members and the large number of people in small and big villages. Is it possible to believe that such a thing can possibly exist in any Government except in this blessed British Government that even the appointment of Registrar-General of Panchayats, which has dealings all the 24 hours of the day with ordinary rural population only, is one reserved for Indian Civil Service officers? It is by an accident that an Indian holds it at present but in view of the fact that every appointment in the Indian Civil Service cadre means two appointments for Indian Civil Service officers, this particular appointment also means two Indian Civil Service officers because the permanent Indian Civil Service man of this post is naturally occupying some other post which would go to an Indian otherwise. Therefore, Sir, it is extremely necessary that some attempt should be made to transfer some of these posts reserved for Indian Civil Service cadre to Provincial Civil Service men. Those of us who were here in the last two Councils will notice that

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the number of appointments reserved for Indian Civil Service officers is increasing like anything. One of the latest developments in that direction was the appointment of an Indian Civil Service officer as Public Works Secretary. And, curiously enough, every possible addition is made to the posts in favour of the Indian Civil Service officers in spite of the fact that the wisdom of including the appointment of the Public Works Secretary in the Indian Civil Service cadre was questioned on the floor of this House. I do not know, Sir, the exact number fixed for the Indian Civil Service cadre now, as the Annual Civil List has not yet been issued, but I believe it is about 85.

“There is a rule of the Government by which one appointment for the Indian Civil Service means two Indian Civil Service officers. For these 85 appointments fixed for the Indian Civil Service there are thus 170 Indian Civil Service officers. As Collectors, Judges or any other high officers, Indians have done satisfactory work, whether they belong to the Indian Civil Service or the Provincial Civil Service. We are not very much concerned whether the Indian Civil Service cadre is Indian or an European. Whether an Indian Civil Service officer is an Indian or an European the same high pay is paid to him, the only difference being that Indians are not paid such huge allowances such as over-sea allowances and so on. We want, however, rigid retrenchment and unless the number of Indian Civil Service officers, whether Indians or Europeans, is reduced, it is hopeless to expect any retrenchment at the top. The first step towards retrenchment should be to give a large number of high appointments to Provincial Civil Service officers. I challenge any hon. Member here either on the front Government benches or on the back benches, to say that any Indian has been found wanting in any high post he has been holding. I am sure the answer will be ‘None’. The pay of a Provincial Civil Service officer is much lower than the pay of an Indian Civil Service officer, though both of them may hold the same post and do the same work. A Provincial Civil Service Collector or a District Judge gets much lower pay than an Indian Civil Service officer holding the same posts. From the point of view of the ordinary tax-payer, the Provincial Civil Service officers are more useful than the Indian Civil Service officers. Even their pay may be considerably reduced. They have been patriotic enough to say through the Indian Officers’ Association that under ordinary circumstances they would be content with a low salary. They submitted a memorial to the Lee Commission which was enquiring into the matter saying that they would be satisfied with something about Rs. 1,000 a month, which meant a lot of self sacrifice. They were right in thinking that they had no right to lead very luxurious lives costing more than Rs. 1,000 a month for each officer, while many millions of their countrymen go to bed with barely a meal a day. I do not know how many European officers hold the same opinion. But from the point of view of Indianisation and. . .”

11-45
a.m.

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—“The hon. Member has far exceeded the time-limit.”

* Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR :—“I shall conclude, Sir. And from the point of view of economy, it is better that Government appoint a committee to consider this question. Of course, I know that these are matters

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which are subject to the final decision of the Secretary of State, but if this Government comes to a conclusion, the Secretary of State would not object to giving effect to it”

* Rao Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU :—“ Sir, I am sorry, I cannot agree to this motion not because the Provincial Civil Service Officer is inefficient or less competent than the Indian Civil Service Officer but because in this Presidency, before you displace all Indian Civil Service Officers there should be some safeguards for giving what the Deputy Leader of the Swarajya Party called ‘communal justice’ Sir, we urged, in the Law Department, for direct recruitment for district judges in order that all the communities may be properly represented. That idea has not been given effect to. On the other hand, we had ten or twelve officers of the Provincial Service promoted as District Judges and all of them happen to be of one particular community. Again, Sir, the idea at the back of the mind of the hon. Member, the mover of the amendment, in saying that the Provincial Civil Service men should be made to replace the all-India Indian Civil Service officers is that by that process he will have a greater proportion of men of his community.”

* Mr. C V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR :—“ As a matter of personal explanation, Sir, I never mentioned any proportion between Brahmans and non-Brahmans. There was no such thing at the back of my mind. I have no objection to non-Brahman gentlemen getting Provincial Civil Service offices if they pass in competitive examinations.”

* Rao Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU :—“ Sir, I wish his professions tallied with his practice. No doubt, my friend would not be in a position to show it in practice. At the same time he should show it by his voting. But so far as this matter is concerned, to give straightaway a line clear to this proposal of filling up the superior posts by means of promotion from the Provincial Civil Service ranks would be to perpetuate the inequalities that now exist. If my hon. friend would urge upon the Government to adopt a system of recruitment by which qualified people of all communities can be taken and due representation of all communities be secured I would have no objection to his proposal. But so far as my party is concerned, unless a definite step is taken to secure representation of all communities in the public service, we would oppose any replacement of the all-India Service by Provincial Civil Service officers which would mean the perpetuation of the preponderance of one community. It is rather a sad commentary on the administration report of this Presidency that while figures for appointments held by all the communities in the various branches of the Government service are given, the figures for the judicial service alone are not given there. Is it due to any desire to keep out of the public knowledge the preponderance of one community there? Is it an eyewash to the public? Well, in every service there is some kind of representation; but in the judicial service alone there is not that representation. The public should know to what extent adequate representation exists. Mere promotion is not going to help either efficiency or economy. On the matter of economy I know that the Swarajya Party professes to be wedded to economy but we will see how it is going to vote on other motions for economy that will be coming up before the House. This motion cannot be put forward on the ground of economy alone. If so, I shall certainly join with the hon. Mover. Side by side with economy, in any displacement of the

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[Mr. B. Muniswami Nayudu]

all-India Services by Provincial Civil Service officers, it shall be a condition precedent that communal justice, i.e., equal opportunities for all communities should be given and guaranteed."

* Mr. P. ANJANEYULU :—" Mr. President, Sir, while I echo the sentiment of my hon. Friend from Chittoor, I am sorry I have not been able to follow his reasoning. In the name of communal justice—he has really borrowed the phrase from us and I am thankful to him for it—he thinks that if Indian Civil Service officers are there, better communal justice will be secured. He perhaps does not look at the figures. Alas! for one reason or other most of these Indian I.C.S. men happen to be Brahmans. Therefore for the very communal justice for which my hon. friend pleaded and to which my party is wedded, if not for any other reason, he must vote with us. In that case, these Indian Civil Service officers, many of whom happen to be Brahmans, will be displaced by Provincial Civil Service officers who have passed a competitive examination. And, if necessary, we shall prohibit Brahmans for some years together from appearing for these examinations. It is because our party says that communal justice should be done and done in proper manner, without undue sacrifice of efficiency, that I request my hon. friends to revise their ideas at the time of voting."

* Mr. C. R. PARTHASARATHI AYYANGAR :—" Sir, what is at the back of the minds of all of us is that we want a reform in the administration. We are not satisfied with the present state of affairs and we want to advance towards complete self-government. We are going to solve in India a question which has not been solved in any other country. For that we want wise men. We are now labouring under the grip of an executive government. We want to substitute the Indian element for the European element. Unless we are guided by wisdom, unless we have at the head of our administration officers who will ameliorate the condition of our people, how can we have self-government? We ask of self-government; it is because we are not satisfied with the present system. If we have the wisest men and the best men to guide us in every department, we will have justice. We must not consider whether a man belongs to this community or that community, but we must have the best men of noble character, wise men, men of unsoiled honour. We want people with hearts. If there is any particular community with any special aptitudes and characteristics, that community ought to place them at the disposal of the country as a whole. The State is not a Brahman State or a non-Brahman State or a Muhammadan State. It is common to all. As such, any man in a responsible position becomes an all-India man; he is an Indian first and then only anything else. We want Indians; we want every one of every community. We want competent men; we want to get rid of narrowmindedness from our midst. "We want geniuses. We cannot repeat the old faults any longer. We must replace the present administration. What is aimed at is this. We do not want to substitute the existing officers by men with narrow minds but with those who feel that they are one of us, and are not separate from us. Indeed, no one can be separate, for separatist tendencies are destructive. It is impossible for any group to stand isolated. We are all one, and we must move with one single mind towards the goal before us for therein lies the way to improve ourselves."

12
noon.

* The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—" Sir, with reference to the remarks which fell from the hon. Member from Coimbatore, may I place

[Sir C. P. Ramaswami Ayyar]

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before the House with your permission, Sir, certain figures? The men that are actually holding the appointment of District and Sessions Judges to-day, including the Additional Sessions Judge of Coimbatore, are: 11 from the Civil Service, 5 from the Bar, and 11 from the Provincial Service. Therefore, there are 16 Bar and Provincial Service men against 11 I.C.S. officers."

* Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR:—"Do the figures relate to the permanent men or acting men?"

* The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR:—"So far as the permanent appointments are concerned, we are guided by certain rules with regard to which final arrangements are still expected. The views of the Madras Government are well known as they have been published. The permanent number of appointments are 18 from the I.C.S. and 8 listed posts, 4 from the Bar and 4 from the P.C.S."

* Diwan Bahadur M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—"Sir, I do not desire to enter into a discussion of this question except to ask for information from the hon. the Law Member as to how many of these 16 Provincial officers and members from the Bar are Brahmans and how many belong to other castes, i.e., how many are Muhammadans, Indian Christians and how many non-Brahmans, etc."

* The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR:—"Fortunately, Sir, that is contained in one page in the Annual and Quarterly Civil List. I do not have just now separate figures. But I think there are two Muhammadans; there is certainly one Indian Christian, probably two; and about the Brahmans and non-Brahmans they are about equal in number. That is all I can say at present."

The hon. the PRESIDENT:—"I take it that the House is ready for the question."

* The hon. Mr. N. E. MARJORIBANKS:—"Sir, I have listened with considerable bewilderment to the speech of the hon. Member who moved this motion. I could not make out what his argument was. At one moment he used language from which it appeared that he objected to the European element."

Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR:—"Not in this motion."

The hon. Mr. N. E. MARJORIBANKS:—"In the next breath he disclaimed that argument. Then he used arguments in favour of recruitment outside the Civil Service altogether. Later, he was arguing that a larger number of men should be promoted from the Provincial Services. At the end of his speech he said that some posts should not be filled by Indian Civil Service officers. The Indian Civil Service, however, as now constituted, consists of persons recruited after competitive examination in England, or in India, and also those promoted from the Provincial Civil Service. Once a man is promoted from the Provincial Service, he gets exactly the same scale of pay as other I.C.S. officers. As part of the Indian Civil Service, he can be appointed to all posts which are open to the Indian Civil Service. The recruitment, as at present fixed, is 20 per cent from the P.C.S. I gather that the hon. Member's desire is that this percentage should be increased, and that there should be at a larger proportion recruited from the

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Provincial Service and a lesser proportion by direct recruitment. That was the very question examined by the Lee Commission and this Government has certainly no intention of opening that question again so soon after the Commission has reported and its recommendations have been accepted."

* **THE RAJA OF PANAGAL** :—"Mr. President, Sir, so much has been said about the question of Indianization that, having been a Member of the Government for six years, I deem it my duty to make a few observations on the question under debate. Sir, the question of Indianization is not an easy one. It is beset with serious complications. If Indianization means the concentration of all official power in one community, certainly it cannot be an advantage. In this Province, the communal prejudices seem to be still strong and the moment any one community comes in possession of power, that community is likely to perpetuate it in that community to the prejudice of other communities. I was at one time an ardent supporter of rapid Indianization. But experience has taught me that indiscriminate Indianization was not an unmixed advantage. The result has been not quite satisfactory. Indianization in the Judicial Department, I am afraid, is going on rather too rapidly with the result that in some cases people are losing confidence in Courts. (The hon. Sir C. P. Ramaswami Ayyar :—"Question.") This is a thing which ought to be carefully considered. Sir, one speaker said that Indian officers were more sympathetic. Is sympathy alone the qualification of an officer? We have sympathetic officers from all communities. It is not the monopoly of any one community. There are instances of European officers being more sympathetic. Generally speaking, the public seem to have greater confidence in Courts presided over by European officers. The reason is that their judgments are less likely to be tinged by political or communal prejudices.

"There is, besides, one other aspect of the question and that is the monopoly of official power in any one community. It has had its effect upon general elections. We know that our reverses at the last elections were partly due to the Brahman predominance in Public Services. In these circumstances, I would advise caution in giving effect to the principle of Indianization. We must have sufficient safeguards to check the tendency to the concentration of official power in any one community. Indianization does not mean the appointment of officers from any one community. There must be safeguards to secure equal opportunities to all communities. With these observations, I oppose the motion."

* **MR. S. SATYAMURTI** :—"Mr. President, Sir, I am not altogether surprised at the intervention of the Raja of Panagal in this debate. But I must confess to a feeling of surprise that, after having held the responsible post of Chief Minister for six years and after having done something—I am free to admit—during his time to Indianise the services, he should get up, now that he is no longer in office, and say that the services should not be Indianised. Why? Because Indians are not sympathetic. Secondly, Indian Judges do not administer justice properly, and thirdly, Indians interfered with the elections and affected the results of the last elections. Mr. President, Sir, there are certain privileges conferred upon hon. Members of this House. But we owe it to those who cannot answer for themselves on the floor of this House that men like my hon. Friend after holding responsible positions should not hurl charges on Indian officers without having some basis to make

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those charges. May I ask my hon. Friend, the Raja of Panagal, as to whether he considers that the Indianization has been rapid and whether he considers that the rate at which we are going to have complete Indianization only after 50 years from now is rapid? Secondly, Mr. President, may I ask whether my hon. Friend thinks, assuming as he says that Europeans are more sympathetic than Indians—I do not grant that they are—that we ought to have Europeans and not Indians? That seems to be an argument against Swaraj in this country. If it comes to that, I should very much prefer somebody else to the Raja of Panagal as Chief Minister, because, as Minister he did many things which no European would have done. While I am not going to argue that, to say that because he did many things which no European would have done, we ought not to have Swaraj is not right. It seems to be the result of despair and national humiliation, to which the Raja of Panagal only can reconcile himself. As regards the charge that Indians are less sympathetic than Europeans, I fully agree that Indianization is not democratization. I said so the other day and I repeat it to-day. But the charge is against the system and not against the men. I am glad that the Raja of Panagal will give evidence before the Royal Commission in 1929 or 1930 and speak against this Indianization because he has learnt that Indians are not fit to be in charge of high offices. I hope that that great democracy by which my hon. Friend swears at the hustings and in the columns of his paper, will mark, learn and inwardly digest the reactionary words which come from a desperate Minister, because he sees nothing but despair throughout the province, when he is out of office.

"Then, as regards the attack, which I refuse to characterize as correct, hurled against the Indian Judicial officers, it is unworthy of any Member of this House, least of all, of those who held such a high office as the Chief Minister. Can he give a single illustration that Indian Sessions Judges and Indian Judicial officers have done injustice? If it had come to his notice, he had the right of audience with His Excellency the Governor and should have told him the fact. To hurl charges at these Indian Judicial officers who cannot defend themselves is not chivalry nor even justice.

"Then, Sir, as to the last wild accusation that Indian officers interfered in the last elections and therefore he lost, it is human nature to attribute one's loss or failure to anything except to one's own defects. If the Raja of Panagal and his party lost, it is because of the maxim which is well known to everybody: 'You can deceive some of the people for some of the time. You can deceive all the people for some of the time. You cannot deceive all the people for all the time.' You were found out and turned down. To blame officials for your loss is not part of ministerial responsibility. If his party lost, it is because it deserved to lose. I do hope, Mr. President, that in spite of these irrelevant, desperate and unworthy arguments, the House will turn to the main question and vote for rapid Indianization of the services, the Raja of Panagal notwithstanding."

13-16
p.m.

* Mr. K. MADHAVAN NAYAR :—"Sir, I rise to inform the Raja Sahib of Panagal that the impartiality that we get from European Judges is the same impartiality that a man shows who throws a stone at two dogs that are fighting with each other, not caring which dog is hit. That is the impartiality that we are getting."

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* Mr. D. THOMAS :—“ Sir, one aspect of the matter I wish to place before the House for its consideration. Reducing the number of Indian Civil Service members in the establishment of the Presidency would necessarily mean a decrease in the number of Indian officers who are holding I.C.S. offices in this Presidency. I believe we are now in a transitional form of Government, and in the present circumstances, the value of any Indian member of the Civil Service who has an opportunity of studying for some time either in England or in other countries the Western forms of Government, administration or procedure, would be particularly great. I therefore believe that at the present stage of our political conditions, to diminish the number of Indian Civil Servants who are administering justice and looking after public governmental affairs in our Presidency would be a retrograde step. I believe, Sir, that at the present juncture and for a short period of some years to come, the presence in our midst of Indians, born in India, with a knowledge of Indian traditions, manners and habits and acquainted with Indian conditions, Indian affairs and Indian points of view and who at the same time have had opportunities of moving with the Western peoples and studying their institutions and civilizations, would be of very great advantage and help in the shaping of things in the near future. I would therefore submit for the consideration of this House that any proposal or any measure which would in any way reduce the number of Indian Civilian officers in our services would be a step, not for the well being of the country.

“ Sir, one other matter also I would like to mention. The impartiality of the Indian Judicial officers has been called into question. Mr. President, Sir, I have been a member of the bar for the last 17 or 18 years, and I can say that some of the finest encouragement and widest sympathy I have derived in the course of my existence at the bar has been from Indian Judges.”

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—“ The time allotted for the demand having expired at 18 minutes after 12 o'clock, I shall put the questions to the vote of the House.

“ The question is—

‘ to reduce the allotment of Rs. 74,900 for Chief Secretariat by Rs. 100’.”

The motion was put to the House and lost.

*The hon. the PRESIDENT :—“ The question is—

‘ that Government be granted a sum not exceeding Rs. 7·10 lakhs minus Rs. 200 under “ Demand X. General Administration—Secretariats ” for the year 1927-28’.”

The demand was put to the House and carried and the grant was made.

DEMAND XI—GENERAL ADMINISTRATION—MISCELLANEOUS.

The hon. Mr. T. E. MOIR :—“ Mr. President, on the recommendation of His Excellency the Governor, I move,

‘ that the Government be granted a sum not exceeding Rs. 6,33,000 under “ Demand XI. General Administration—Miscellaneous ”.’”

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* Mr. C. GOPALA MENON :—" Sir, I beg to move

' that the allotment of Rs. 25,000 for Commercial Accountants be reduced by Rs. 100.'

" Sir, my idea in moving this motion is to find out why the present system of independent audit has been transferred to the Central Government, at an enhanced cost of about Rs. 4,000 more than the amount allotted last year for audit of commercial accounts by independent auditors, i.e., by Messrs. Fraser & Ross which was Rs. 21,000. This year the contribution to the Government of India towards the cost of maintaining a commercial audit staff in Madras has been fixed at Rs. 25,000. I say that an independent audit is more preferable to an audit controlled by the Central Government. Further, we are handing over this power of audit from our jurisdiction to the Central Government. One after another, we are giving away our powers to the Central Government. Not only that, if this system of audit is kept under Provincial control, there are sufficient clever men to conduct the audit of commercial concerns in this Presidency, such as Chartered Accountants, Incorporated Accountants and G.D.As. and it may be easy for the Government to get their accounts audited by them. My point is, why should we hand over these audits to the Central Government? Last year we found that the Central Government had withdrawn from us the customs duty on stores which we imported into this Presidency. Now we are handing over the commercial audit also to the Central Government. The other day we had a full dress debate on the question of the grant of full Provincial autonomy for this Presidency. If really we want it, I think it is better that this audit system is kept within the control of the Provincial Government as well. On these grounds, Sir, I move my motion."

* The hon. Mr. T. E. MOIR :—" Perhaps I might explain, Sir, that audit is a Central subject and the responsibility for audit does rest with the Central Government. As hon. Members are aware, during the last few years, a large number of commercial concerns have arisen in the course of the development of our productive departments, such as industries and forests, and a good many of these were experimental measures the object being to find out not merely whether a particular article could be made or a particular industry could be carried on in this country but whether it could be carried on under such conditions as will offer a reasonable prospect of profit to private enterprise if it engaged in similar undertakings. In order to demonstrate that, it was of course necessary that the accounts in connexion with these concerns should be maintained and audited in such a way that any private citizen or merchant could, by studying these accounts, determine for himself whether the prospects were sufficiently attractive to induce him to put his capital into a concern of the kind. At that time, the local accounts and audit department under the Accountant-General was not organized on lines which permitted its undertaking the preparation and maintenance of audit of such accounts; because commercial audits and accounts are entirely different from ordinary Government accounts. At that time we secured the services of a well-known firm of Chartered Accountants in this city who for the past few years had undertaken this work for us. And I might, in passing, say that we have every reason to be grateful to them for the great trouble and the great care with which they have carried out the work entrusted to them. But the Government of India were faced with the same

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problem as we were faced with, of taking into hand the question of commercial accounts. Probably Members of this House are aware that they consulted various expert firms, such as Messrs. Price and Waterhouse as to the lines on which the audit of these accounts should be undertaken. That being so, the Government of India set up their own branch of commercial audit. It is only recently that they have made practical arrangements for establishing a branch of their commercial audit department in Madras, and that department has taken over, I believe, the auditing of accounts of our commercial concerns as well as the various Government of India's commercial concerns either in this Presidency or in the neighbouring States such as Hyderabad. That having taken place, the Government of India requested us to utilise their agency, so that it may, as in the case of other audits throughout the country, be directly under Government control. We assented to that proposition and the only question that had to be raised was as to the financial terms which should be arranged between the Local Government and the Government of India for carrying out this decision. We are not absolutely in a position at present to say what the ultimate result will be, because we have so far had no practical experience of what the cost would be; the actual cost will not be available until at any rate we have had one year's experience of the system. The amount was however tentatively fixed at that shown in the budget, and that in our opinion, represents a reasonable charge for the extra work which the Government of India audit department have undertaken, for that work is increasing in quantity and considering the amount of money involved every year, we are quite sure it is not an unreasonable amount that we pay to the Government of India. If, of course, we find that the amount paid to the Government of India, which at present we regard as a reasonable sum, is not so, from actual experience, then we are at liberty to reconsider the question of our relations on the subject with the Government of India."

* Mr. C. GOPALA MENON :—" With the explanation given by the hon. the Finance Member that the audit of commercial accounts is under the control of the Central Government, I am satisfied; but my only point is"

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" The hon. Member is not entitled to make a speech. I want to know whether he wishes to withdraw his motion."

* Mr. C. GOPALA MENON :—" The hon. the Finance Member has not explained whether an independent audit is or is not preferable to Government audit. My point was that these accounts should be audited by an independent auditor instead of being under Government control; but the reason given by the hon. the Finance Member is that the Central Government had control over the audit department; I withdraw my motion on the strength of the explanation given by the hon. the Finance Member."

The motion was, by leave, withdrawn.

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" The question is that Government be granted a sum not exceeding 6.33 lakhs under Demand XI—General Administration—Miscellaneous for the year 1927-28."

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The demand was put to the House and carried; and the grant was made.

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DEMAND XII—GENERAL ADMINISTRATION—MINISTERS AND
CIVIL SECRETARIATS—TRANSFERRED.

* The hon. Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN :—" Mr. President, on the recommendation of His Excellency the Governor I move

'that the Government be granted a sum not exceeding 4.32 lakhs on account of General Administration—Ministers and Civil Secretariats—Transferred.'

" May I, Sir, with your permission, preface this with a few remarks? "

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" Order, order. The practice hitherto adopted is that, immediately after a motion has been made, the Member in charge is called upon to answer, and after the debate has proceeded to some length, the Member is given another chance to reply. If the Member now wants to make a speech, I believe, he shall be justified in making a reply at the end. I want to know whether he wants to follow that course or adhere to the existing practice? "

* The hon. Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN :—" I am quite willing to follow the usual practice, Sir."

Rao Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU :—" Sir, I move

'that the allotment of Rs. 1,74,000 for the pay of officers be reduced by Rs. 100'

" As I have stated, my object is to discuss the want of confidence in the Ministers. I may, at the outset, state that so far as the personnel of the Ministers is concerned, I have nothing to complain of and I have got the greatest admiration for the Ministers sitting there. I am also glad that whether the Justice party is in power or not, we still find three non-Brahmans sitting on those benches there. Sir, if I raise this question, it is for the purpose of showing that in a Council constituted as this, when diarchy is being preached from one section of the House as absolutely incapable of being worked, it is not constitutionally proper that the Ministry should be constituted from a party with a small minority. The reason is, if even under diarchy any satisfactory work is to be achieved and in a manner acceptable to the popular portion of the House it must be with Ministers who have a certain amount of backing of their own party, so that they can assert at all times as against the bureaucracy. With a weak Ministry and with a weak following, the Ministers will not have that consciousness of power which they ought to have. Now, Sir, I am glad to note that though they may not have their own party to back them up, there will be the other party, i.e., the Swarajist party helping them. I raise this discussion only with a view to show to the country that, while that section professes to be bent upon killing diarchy, they will really work diarchy in this province through the present Ministry. I leave it to them to show whether their profession tallies with their practice."

* Mr. SAMI VENKATACHALAM CHETTI :—" Mr. President, I owe it to you, Sir, to this House, and to the country at large, to state as briefly as possible the explanation of the attitude which my party has decided to take in respect of the motion made under Demand XII—General Administration—Ministers and Civil Secretariats—Transferred, that is now under consideration.

" We are here, Sir, to carry out the Congress mandates, namely, to offer determined resistance to every activity of the bureaucracy that may impede the nation's progress towards Swaraj, and support all such measures as would

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advance the national development. Moreover, we have to resist every measure that the bureaucracy takes to consolidate its power. The country, when it returned us in very much larger numbers than before, gave the verdict that the irremovable bureaucracy had consolidated its power, more through that part of the constitution which is subject to change.

"It is also unequivocally held that the Justice party had helped to impede the nation's progress towards swaraj. We are, therefore, bound to act in such a manner as not to run counter to this verdict. As we feel that the objective of the Congress as indicated by the vote of the country cannot be achieved to-day by voting for or against the Ministry formed some time ago, we refrain from voting altogether.

"We shall always be ready to use our vote against this Ministry when we are satisfied that such a course will achieve the objective of the Congress, viz., the preventing of any ministry under diarchy."

* Diwan Bahadur M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—“Sir, I support this motion. The policy of the Ministers was laid down by my hon. Friend Mr. Ranganatha Mudaliyar when he spoke at Rajahmundry. A reference was already made to that on a previous occasion. Now I wish to draw attention to one or two items of their programme in Council. First, they say

“(a) the introduction of legislation for the fixing and alteration of rates with the sanction of the Legislative Council and the taking of early steps for the initiation and carrying out of schemes of national importance; and (b) the codification of land revenue on a statutory basis and control of policy by the Legislative Council”.

“That is their declared programme and I am glad that they have declared it. But what is their act?

“The first and the most important question that came up for discussion before this House when the detailed budget discussion was taken up was this, whether it was necessary in the interests of the country that a Revenue Settlement Bill giving to this Council the power of fixing rates, should be passed by this Council and should be introduced by the Government or not. On this question, there was a unanimity of opinion on all sides of the House and the proposition that such a Bill should be introduced was carried by a large majority in this Council. But the Ministers voted, I regret to say, not on the popular side, but on the Government side. I can understand the convention, Sir, that the Ministers should not actually vote against their Colleagues on the Reserved side when there are differences of opinion; but, if my hon. Friends, the Ministers, felt that the opinion of the House was that such a Land Revenue Bill, as the one I referred to, was necessary in the best interests of the country, I submit that their plain duty was to have, in any case, remained neutral and not to have voted on the Government side. They did not however remain neutral, but they voted with the Government.

“Another item then in their programme is this: the amendment of the Local Boards and the Village Panchayat Acts. They say that they will improve local administration and invest local bodies with initiative, responsibility and power, and gradually enable them to become vital units in the scheme of national self-government performing many of the functions now vested in the Provincial Government. Let us take this programme of the Ministers in connexion with their act and work. The most important

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Municipal institution in the Presidency, namely, the Madras Corporation, appointed a Special Health Officer. I believe the appointment was supported unanimously by all the members of the Corporation. What did Government do and what did my hon. Friend the Chief Minister do in connexion with that? Instead of accepting the unanimous opinion of the Madras Corporation they vetoed that appointment. I know that the Government, subsequent to that, sanctioned the continuance or retention of that officer for a period of six months. This act of turning down the unanimous recommendation of the Madras Corporation was not only against the policy of the Ministry but against the interests of the country.

"Then again, with reference to the appointment of the Special Engineer also, when the Madras Corporation, the premier municipal institution of the presidency, appointed an officer, the Government vetoed it. I understand that the Special Engineer, whose appointment was sanctioned by the Corporation, did within a period of two or three years as much work as his predecessor had done during a period of 14 or 15 years. I understand that the present Commissioner, his predecessor Mr. Boag and all the councillors have confidence in him and he also is reported to have done works when he was in charge of the department costing 30 to 35 lakhs. Is there any justification for this Government in turning down again this decision of the Madras Corporation? This again, I submit, Sir, shows that their programme is in one way and their acts are in another.

"Then, again, the other day, there was a cut of Rs. 100 in the demand for Exoise. That raises an important constitutional question. The decision for the cut of Rs. 100 effected by this Council, in the demand, shows that these Ministers are in a minority in this Council. I submit that it is against all fundamental principles of the constitution to have Ministers from a party which is not the predominant party in the Council. My friend Mr. Muniswami Nayudu has stated that it is only with the aid of their friends on the Swarajist benches that these Ministers can stand. That shows that power is divorced from responsibility. This is the negation of all principles. With reference to this, I may also draw your attention to the observations of Lord Lytton which were made at the time of the formation of the Ministry in Bengal.

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"He said that he was asking the Council to vote a sum for the appointment of Ministers, and if the Council voted that sum, he would appoint the Ministers; and after appointing the Ministers, if the Council reduced even by one rupee the allotment made for the Ministers, he would ask the Ministers to resign. That, I submit, is a constitutional principle which ought to be followed. According to that principle enunciated by Lord Lytton, I submit, Sir, that my friends, the Ministers have no right—I have nothing to speak against them personally—to continue to be the Ministers. They ought to have tendered resignation that very day, and their continuing there against that vote, is against all constitutional principles. And in this connexion may I also say that during the period of six years that the Justice party was in power, they did not suffer a single defeat on any of the motions brought forward from the other side? If they had suffered any such defeat, the Justice Ministers would have resigned, and even if the Ministers were not willing to resign,

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we the members of that party would have compelled them to resign. (Cries of 'Oh! oh!') There is no use, Sir, of my hon. Friends on the Svarajist benches saying 'Oh, oh.' What is there for 'Oh, oh' about it? (Laughter.) I am arguing the whole question on a purely constitutional basis and I have tried to avoid, as far as it lies in my power, and I believe I have succeeded in avoiding, all questions of a personal character in this matter so that, I submit, on that constitutional ground alone, if not on any other ground, my friends' presence or continued presence on the Treasury bench is not right. That vote I referred to shows that this House as a whole is against them.

"May I also say one word in this connexion, before I sit down, Sir, and that is about the tours of my friends, the Ministers? During the last three years we heard a great deal about the tours undertaken by the Justice Ministers, and I do not think that there was a single day on which we did not have interpellations on the tours undertaken by the then Ministers. My friend, Mr. Satyamurti, who is very active in all matters in connexion with the business in this Council, was then particularly active in putting questions about the Ministers' tours and the necessity for them. May I in all humility draw your attention and the attention of this House to the tours undertaken by my friends on the Treasury bench? I believe that during the 3 months or $3\frac{1}{2}$ months they have been in office they have done more touring than all the Justice Ministers in all the six years they were in office. There has been hardly a week in which we did not find them touring. On one occasion, I have found two Ministers simultaneously at Madura, and I think, on another occasion, I found all the Ministers in Cuddalore. My friend, the Second Minister, was touring breathlessly between the northernmost part of the Presidency, I think it was Rajahmundry, to the westernmost corner, Mangalore, as if his life as a Minister depended upon his rapid tours. What are these tours undertaken for? Is there such a great benefit to the country that it was absolutely necessary for my hon. Friends the Ministers to have undertaken these tours in such hot haste? I submit that it is a waste of money. I do not deny that it will be necessary for the Ministers to tour, as in their tour sometimes they will be able to get valuable information. But on other occasions, particularly when they go to the same place at the same time, and three of them are found in one place on one day, then it is an unpardonable waste of money. These are the questions that have arisen about them. I would again emphasise that, particularly on the constitutional issue, they have no right to continue in office."

* The hon. Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"Mr. President, Sir, I am much obliged to my hon. Friends on the Opposition benches, Mr. Muniswami Nayudu and Mr. Krishnan Nayar, who avoided personalities, in the discussion on this motion, as far as it lay in their power. I take the speech that fell from the hon. Member who has just preceded me, Diwan Bahadur Krishnan Nayar, first. He spoke of a small minority holding office. May I put it to him, Sir, that as long as we call ourselves constitutionalists and as long as we feel that the Government in this country ought to be carried on, when His Excellency the Governor called upon me to form a Ministry, as long as I believed that it was right and proper that the constitutional Government of this province should be carried on, it was my duty to accept office? Under those circumstances, I accepted office. And once I am here,

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may I also tell him that as long as I enjoy the confidence of this House though it may be by the neutrality of my friends opposite (referring to the Swarajists). I have every right to sit on the bench I now occupy? Another point which my hon. Friend trotted out with his usual suavity of manner was about the vote that was given on the Excise policy. May I point out to him that that vote was as much a censure on his hon. Friends, the Ministers that preceded us, as on ourselves, because the question that was before the House, if I understood it correctly, was that the policy as was followed by the previous Ministry was such as was not acceptable to the Members of this House; and I was glad to see that my hon. Friend's party voted for that motion. If they think that it is a vote of no-confidence against us, they may keep their own counsel, but I have my own opinion on that and that is that it cannot be a vote of 'no-confidence' against us. A perusal of the speeches of my hon. Friend the Leader of the Opposition and my hon. Friend the Member for the University will go to show that my contention is correct. The third point which my hon. Friend talked about was the way in which I have behaved towards the Corporation. Might I point out to him with all humility that I did not do anything wrong, and I did not carry anything, a step further than what my hon. Friend, the Raja of Panagal did when he was the Minister here? My hon. Friend seems to have spent sleepless nights in considering about the way in which I had turned down the opinion of the Corporation. May I point out to him, Sir, that if I did so, I did what I thought was right? As long as I remain the Minister in charge of Local Self-Government, if I do feel that the local bodies, even though it be on a unanimous opinion of theirs, are not doing what I think is correct and what I think is right for the proper administration of municipal government or local self-government carried on by district boards, I am entitled as long as I am the Chief Minister, the Minister in charge of Local Self-Government of this Province, to have my own view and overrule them when such power is given to the Government by the Act itself. The only other point that my friend touched upon was about tours. Might I also point out to him in this connexion, Sir, that these tours have been undertaken long after the elections were over and long before any elections were in contemplation? I can give him this assurance, Sir, that we as Ministers if we remain in power for the next three years, will not tour in the province six months before the next elections come. At that time, I will give this undertaking, we will tour not at the expense of the State, but at our own expense, if we feel that for political purposes, we think we ought to tour. I can give this undertaking on the floor of this House that I will not undertake any tour at the expense of the State six months before the next elections are held. My hon. Friend suavely talked of Ministers being at the same time at Madura. May I ask him in all humility, why should we not? If our office makes it necessary that both of us ought to be at the same time at Madura and that we should arrange to be there at the same time and if we had to be there at the same time, I maintain, Sir, and I challenge my hon. Friend to say anything else, that we have a right to be there.

"Then, Sir, my hon. Friend says that he found all the three of us at one time at Cuddalore. Might I also ask him, why should we not go to Cuddalore if our office demanded our presence at Cuddalore, and I may say that as long as we remain here we have a right to be in Cuddalore if we wish.

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[Dr. P. Subbarayan]

My hon. Friend Mr. Muniswami Nayudu did not raise any specific question except the question of our having a small minority. That point I have already answered, Sir, and I have nothing more to add to what I have already said."

*Mr. T. C. SRINIVASA AYYANGAR :—" Sir, as I read the motion on paper, I thought it was rather a curious motion, and I could not understand whose want of confidence the Ministers were suffering from. It is said here that the object of the motion is 'to discuss want of confidence in the Ministers' Apparently, the Ministers are suffering, in the opinion of my hon. Friends from Chittoor and Malabar, from a want of confidence from themselves, I mean the Justice party. The House, I believe, will not mind that. The question is whether the Ministers are suffering from want of confidence of this House. The two speakers themselves have given the answer by saying that the other party, the Swarajists, keeps the Ministry in power. Let us consider that. If we take seriously the position urged by the Member for Malabar, it comes to this, that all parties must be warring against one another and that unless a party is in clear majority in the House to carry out their policy in all matters, they ought not to accept office, a really fine illustration of their position and plea for co-operation in the country and their practical advocacy of non-co-operation here, apparently with an eye upon the Treasury Bench! Now, Sir, let us look at the English party system. At one time, the Irish party held the balance of power in their hands, and the English Liberal Ministry could not function without the aid of the Irish party. And recently the Labour party was in power by the help and co-operation of the English Liberal party. I make a present of it to the hon. Member from Malabar. Why does he think that the Ministry should be voted down? Is it because he expects that the Swarajist party would support them in turning the present Ministry out of power? Is it the case of having power to themselves and appeal to the other party for support when necessary? I may advise them to do one thing. Let them themselves adopt our programme or change one or two items of their programme and persuade the people outside and thus try to get into power. Even then this Ministry cannot be said to be suffering from want of confidence. They have been asking why on the Excise question there was a vote carried against the Minister. I think I need not labour this point as the Chief Minister has already answered it. To my mind it appears that that is a want of confidence pronounced, though belated, in the late Ministry. Then as regards the other points which have been mentioned, my hon. Friend took pride in saying that the Justice party while in power never suffered a single defeat; but, Sir, they suffered a crushing defeat at the polls in the country. That is so recent, and my hon. Friends ought not to have forgotten that and taken consolation from the absence of any defeat in the Council earlier. The question about the tours has already been answered. As regards the Madras Corporation affair we heard what the Minister stated in his answer. But about the question of the Gandhi portrait in the Madras Corporation and about Mr. Raghavendra Rao's case, I think the late Justice Ministry certainly owe an explanation to this House and the country before they throw stones on the present Ministry. I think, Sir, looked at from the way in which hon. Members moved and supported the motion, it seems that they themselves suffer from want of confidence in their motion."

[21st March 1927]

1 p.m.

* **MR. A. B. SHETTY**:—"Mr. President, Sir, I am glad that our hon. Friends on the other side have kept the level of debate high and have not descended to personal attacks against the personnel of the Ministry. The hon. the Chief Minister has explained what led the Independents, by which name we call ourselves, to accept office. The largest single party which has been returned to this House having refused to accept office due to the pledge they have given to the electorate, and the Justice Party on account of the reverses they suffered in the elections not having been in a position to accept office, it was inevitable that we who had come here to work the Reforms for what they were worth have had to accept office. We have published the programme of the party and it does not differ in any material respects from the programme of the Congress Party except in the matter of the acceptance of office. I may say that in the matter of giving equal opportunities for all communities and in the matter of communal justice we are at one with the Justice Party and I believe even in the Congress Party there is hardly anybody who is against us in this matter. We find day after day Christian, Muhammadan and other members of the Congress Party getting up and speaking and voting on behalf of the backward and depressed classes. I am sure, Sir, that no liberal-minded Brahman, no Brahman who is a Congressman, will be against us on this matter. Our party keeps its doors open to people of all communities and creeds. We do not shut out Brahmans simply because they are Brahmans so long as they subscribe to our party programme. There are amongst us three Brahmans who have accepted the principle of equal opportunities for all. I am sorry that the Justices have built up a party not on political programmes and policies but on the mere accident of birth and that is the reason why they are held in such disfavour in several quarters. May I, Sir, in this connexion remind them of the very wholesome advice given to them somewhere about July last year by no less a person than the hon. Mr. S. R. Das? He asked the non-Brahmans of this Presidency not to try to rise to the exclusion of the other communities who have been earlier in the field, and to refrain from unnecessarily incurring the hostility of the Brahmans. He advised the Brahmans also not to be afraid of non-Brahmans but to assist them in every way possible, so that the nation, as a whole, may go forward. He assured the non Brahmans that their path would become easier, if they go about their business in the right way. I commend these wise words to the earnest attention of our friends opposite. Now, the programme of our party is before the country and before this House. Nobody can take exception to it. Let not our friends on the opposite side be in haste. Let them wait and see. Let them judge our Ministers and our party by our performances and then it will be time for them to come before this House and pronounce their verdict."

* **THE ZAMINDAR OF GOLLAPALLI**:—"Sir, Mr. President, the new Ministry came into existence only four months back. I think it has not yet understood all the official secrets of the administration. I cannot understand the psychology of bringing this motion when this Ministry has not been tried to its full. Every part of this Presidency welcomed the change, perhaps by that natural instinct which the Poet Laureate of the Queen Victorian Age stated :

'Old order changeth yielding place to new.

God fulfils himself in many ways,

Lest one good custom should corrupt the world.'

21st March 1927] [The Zamindar of Gollapalli

“We see from the Ministry’s tenor that it will be a prosperous one if it continues to go on in the way it has started. Of course, any administration will have its own defects. Especially under the present system of diarchy, any popular Ministry cannot do much to the benefit of its people. This Ministry has promised us many things, in the way of amending the Local Boards Act, Hindu Religious Endowments Act, and in the way of Excise reform. Landholders of this Presidency are looking up to this Ministry, especially the Chief Minister, to safeguard our interests in the Cabinet, when any question that touches us would rise up there. I think it is not meet for the House to oust this Ministry at this early stage of its career. I hope and trust that the Ministry would seriously consider themselves to be the representatives of this Presidency in the Cabinet and fight with the Reserved half to get more for the people, and that they would deeply consider every word that would fall from this House, from whatever party it might be, or even from non-party men. I hope they would try to equitably settle the rights between one class and the other, or one set and the other, by private discussions, conferences, and amicable settlements when such measures like the Factory Act, the Estates Land Act Amendment Bill, the Revenue Settlement Bill and such other measures come before the Cabinet and this Council. I request that this Ministry should show more sympathy towards questions concerning the Andhra districts both in the Cabinet and on the floor of this House. Sir, I request that this Ministry should fight more than the previous one in the Cabinet and in the Council on questions relating to the development of the Andhra University and the constitution of an Andhra province. I think that it is its duty to try in the Cabinet and get equal proportion for Irrigation, Agriculture, Industry, Medical, Education and distribute it to all the portions of the Presidency, especially more to the backward portions of the Andhra districts, to eradicate the sentiment that the chief is a Tamilian. So the Ministers, I trust, would behave true to our expectations and continue to enjoy the feeling of confidence of the people of the Presidency by fulfilling their promises to the very letter.

“So, Sir, with these few words of advice to the Ministers, I oppose the motion, as I think that it is not made at the proper time and that it would be premature to judge the work of the Ministry which has but just begun.”

* Swami SAHAJANANDA then addressed the House in Tamil:—“தம்போது மந்திரிமார்களிடம் ஐயப்படுவதற்கு இடமேயில்லை. அவர்கள் இப்பொழுதுதான் வந்தவர்கள். இன்னும் ஒரு வருஷம் சென்றால் அதற்குள் அவர்களது வேலையைத் தெரிந்துகொண்டு அபிப்பிராயம் கூறமுடியும். இவர்கள் முன்னரே மந்திரிகளாயிருந்திருப்பாரானால் இப்பொழுது அங்கத்தினர் கொண்டுவந்த தீர்மானத்தைப்பற்றி யோசிக்கலாம். ஆனால் இப்பொழுதுதான் அவர்கள் மந்திரிகள் வேலையை மேற்கொண்டுள்ளார். இப்பொழுது அவர்களிடம் நம்பிக்கை வைத்ததற்கு சரியான காரணங்களுள், ‘குணநாடி குற்றமுநாடிய வற்றுண் மிகை நாடி மிக்க கொளல்’ என்பதற்கிணங்க குணத்தையும் குற்றத்தையும் ஆராய்ந்து பார்க்குமிடத்து அவர்களிடம் அதிக குணம் காணப்படுவதால் அவர்களை குணவான்களாகக்கொண்டு நம்பிக்கையுள்ளவர்களாகவிருக்கிறோம். அவர்களுள் இருவர் எற்கனவே இந்த சட்டசபையில் அங்கத்தி

[Swami Sahajananda]

[21st March 1927]

னராகவிருந்து பல நல்ல காரியங்கள் செய்துள்ளார்கள். கனம் பப்ளிக் எல்த் மந்திரியார் திவான் பகதூர் ஆரோக்கியசாமி முதலியாரவர்கள் சூப் பிரண்டெண்டிங் இஞ்சினியராக விருந்தபோது அவர்கள் ஜனங்களுக்கும் எங்கள் சமூகத்திற்கும் அளவிறந்த நன்மைகள் செய்துள்ளார்கள். இவர்கள் எற்கனவே நல்ல காரியங்கள் செய்தவர்களாதலால் மந்திரி பதவியைக் கொண்டு இன்னும் அதிக நன்மைகள் செய்வார்களென எதிர்ப்பார்க்கிறோம்.

“ ‘எனவகையாற்றேரியக் கண்ணும் வினாவகையால் வேறுகுமாந்தர் பலர்’ என்பதற்கிணங்க இவர்களை எத்துணை நல்லவர்களென நம்பியிருப்பினும் வினையை மேற்கொண்டவகையில் மாறுபடலாமோ என்னும் ஐயமுண்டாகலாம். இவர்களது இயல்பாகிய நற்குணங்களைக்கொண்டு அவ்வாறு நினைத்தற்கிடமில்லை. அவ்வாறாயின் அடுத்த வருஷம் பட்ஜெட்டின்போது அது தெளியப்படும். இப்போது எங்கள் வகுப்பு அங்கத்தினர் மிகவும் குறைந்து மற்றைய வகுப்பு அங்கத்தினர்கள் கவுன்ஸிலில் அதிகமாயிருந்தாலும் சுண்டு எண்ணிக்கையில் குறைந்துள்ள அங்கத்தினர்களாகிய நாங்கள் எங்கள் தாழ்த்தப்பட்ட வகுப்பு அவ்வளவிற்கும் பிரதிநிதியாகையால் எங்கள் வாக்குக்கு அதிக உரிமை கொடுக்கவேண்டும். இவ்விடத்தில் பேசும் அடியேனது வார்த்தையை பதினைந்து வட்சம் ஆதித்திராவிட வார்த்தையாகவே கொள்ளவேண்டும். தென்னாற்காடு ஜில்லா ஆதித்திராவிட ஜனங்கள் கனம் மந்திரியாருக்கு வரவேற்புக் கூறியபோது மந்திரி பதவி ஆதித்திராவிடர்களுக்குள் ஒருவருக்கு வந்ததாகவே மிகுமுகிளேமெனக் கூறினார்கள். அது மந்திரிமார்களிடத்தில் வைத்த நம்பிக்கையாலேயாம். கனம் ராஜா பனகல் முதன் மந்திரியாயிருந்தகாலத்தில் சென்னை சட்டசபையில் எங்களுக்கு குறைந்த அளவாகப் பிரதிநிதிகளிருந்தார்கள். அது சமையம் ராஜா பனகல் ஆங்காங்கும் ஜில்லா போர்டு, தாலுக் போர்டு, மியுனிசிபாலிட்டிகளில் எங்களுக்கு ஒவ்வோரிடம் அளித்தார்கள். சிதம்பரத்தில் எங்கு டெலிகேட் சேர்மன் பதவியும் கொடுத்தார். அவ்விஷயத்தை யாங்கள் மறக்கவில்லை. அவர்களிடம் இன்னும் எங்களுக்கு விகவாசமிருக்கிறது. தற்போது கவுன்ஸலில் எங்கள் வகுப்பினர் பத்து பேருக்கு ஒருவர் வீதமிருக்கின்றனர். தற்போது மந்திரிமார்களும் ஆங்காங்கு லோகல் போர்டுகளின் அங்கத்தினர்கள் அளவில் எங்களுக்கு பத்துக்கொரு மெம்பர் வீதம் அதிகப்படுத்துவார்களென எங்கள் சமூகத்தார் நம்பியிருக்கிறார்கள்.

“இந்தியாவில் உயர்வகுப்பு ஆடவர்களின் நன்மையை நாடி உழைத்துவரும் பெண்மக்களும் தாழ்ந்த வகுப்பினரும் படித்துவிட்டால் நம்மை கேள்விகேட்டார்களெனத் தன்னலங் கருதியவர்கள் பெண் மக்களையும் தாழ்ந்த வகுப்பாரையும் படிக்கவொட்டாமல் சாஸ்திர சட்டங்களேற்படுத்தித் தடுத்து வந்தார்கள். நமது மந்திரிமார்கள் முதல் முதல் மந்திரி வேலையை மேற்கொண்டவுடன் ஒரு பெண் மகளுக்கு கொள்ளஸலில் அங்கத்தினர் பதவி கொடுத்து உதவித் தலைவராகவும் ஆக்கினார்கள்.

“அன்றியும், பெண் மக்களுக்கும், லோகல் போர்டுகளில் அங்கத்தினர் கொடுக்கவேண்டுமென உத்தரவிட்டிருக்கிறார்கள். எங்களுக்கும்

21st March 1927] [Swami Sahajananda]

போதுமான பிரதிரிதித்துவம் கொடுப்பதோடு கல்வி விஷயத்தில் கவனம் செலுத்துவதாகக் கூறியுள்ளார்கள். இவற்றைவிட இவர்களிடம் நம்பிக்கைக்கு வேறு காரணங்கள் கூறல்வேண்டுமா? மந்திரிமார்களிடம் குறை கூறுவதாயின் காங்கிரஸ்காரர்கள் மந்திரி பதவி யேற்றாலும் குறை கூறக் கூடும். மந்திரிமார்களிடம் குறை கூறுவதற்கு காரணம் இரட்டையாட்சி குறை கூறுவதற்கு இடமாயிருக்கிறது. அது மந்திரிகள் மேலேற்றப்படுகிறது. மற்றப்படி தற்போதுள்ள மந்திரிகள் குணமுள்ளவர்களாதலால் அவர்களிடம் எங்களுக்குப் பூர்ண நம்பிக்கையுண்டு.”

* Mr. T. M. NARAYANASWAMI PILLAI :—“ Mr. President, Sir, I am really glad at the manner in which the motion was moved. The two hon. Members who spoke in support of the motion gave a few points to deal with. As my hon. Friend, Mr. Srinivasa Ayyangar, put it, it looked as though they had a want of confidence in themselves and their motion. Let us calmly analyse the situation. Is it really so unconstitutional on our part to have formed the ministry in the present situation? The Justice party held the ministry for six years and the country's verdict went against them. The single largest party, the Swarajist party, would not take up office. We should have felt glad if they had accepted office. Those of us who are anxious to see that the constitution is worked were anxious that the administration should be carried on. We, who stood at the time of the elections as independents, that is, as members who did not belong either to the Justice party or the Congress party, who might be said to correspond to the responsive co-operators in other provinces, felt it our duty to carry on diarchy even under the limitations under which it suffers. Though numerically we are not in a majority in the Council, I claim that the country as a whole, has given the verdict in our favour. As already stated the elections went against the Justicites. The Swarajists will not accept office. And more than that, our programme is such as to command the unanimous confidence of every party in the Council and of the country. We should command the confidence of both the Swarajists and the Justicites.

“The position of the Swarajists in this Council requires some examination. Sir, they are slowly coming down from boycott of Councils to co-operation. It is a feature upon which we should congratulate the country and ourselves. We are wedded to national progress and the Swarajists must be at one with us. The Justicites have hardly any reason to oppose us. They cannot be heard to say that we are here in an unconstitutional position. The country has given the verdict against them, and we are here backed up by the confidence of the people determined to work out a programme which in the main should carry the support of the House. Therefore it is, that far from being a minority party, we stand for a party which commands the unanimous acceptance of both the sections of the House. Really no point has been urged on the constitutional side. On the other hand, the circumstances preceding and following the elections have shown beyond doubt that we are the only party which should be entrusted with the task of carrying on the administration. We have accordingly accepted office. If the House were however to pass a vote of censure, we will be the first people to walk out. We have made that position clear in the present debate.

1-15
p. m.

[Mr. T. M. Narayanaswami Pillai] [21st March 1927]

“The hon. Member, Mr. Krishnan Nayar, without confining himself to the constitutional issue, referred to some minor points, namely, the tours of the Ministers and the vote on the excise policy. I do not like to deal with the questions relating to the Corporation of Madras and other things. But with regard to the tours, I should like to say this, let not hon. Members be under the impression that the tours are undertaken by the Ministers at their sweet will and pleasure, but it is because we invited the Ministers to visit our places that they came. So far as Trichinopoly is concerned, it was our desire that the Ministers should come there. The hon. the Minister for Public Health had a great deal to examine in connexion with the improvement of water-supply to the town of Trichinopoly and with the question of drainage in Srirangam. So it was that the hon. Minister in response to our invitation came to Trichinopoly. In addition to the public works, he had to examine the water-supply and drainage schemes. Let it not be imagined that they undertake tours at their own sweet will and pleasure. Sir, that our Ministry commands the confidence of this House as well as of this Presidency will be made clear if I refer to the numerous congratulations and rejoicings in our favour at the time when the composition of this Ministry was announced. The hon. Member, Mr. Muniswami Nayudu, himself has made it clear that he has nothing to say against the personnel of the Ministry. As a matter of fact, he feels very glad about the personnel of the Ministry, and it is because of that that I dissuade him from moving a vote of no-confidence, not merely because they are Non-Brahmans but also because they are efficient and quite fit to form the Ministry. I do not like to speak in praise of their public services in the past. They have been here for the last two terms, and their public service is enough to command our confidence in them. As I said already, hardly any point has been raised in favour of this motion. With these few words, I appeal to the House to reject the motion.”

MR. ABBAS ALI KHAN :—“Mr. President, Sir, I also rise to oppose the motion which has been moved. As regards the point that two Ministers were at Madura at one and the same time, may I say this, because I was at Madura at the time the Ministers came and I was one of those who took some part—as I always do when Ministers and Executive Council Members come to my district—in their reception. Whether it be the Justice Party, the Swaraj Party, or any other party, whichever party is in power, I would welcome them. I believe it is because I am a Mussalman and the sense of hospitality is so much ingrained in me that I would not refuse hospitality even to my enemy, for the time being. Now, as regards the incident of the visit of the hon. Mr. Arogyaswami Mudaliyar and the hon. Dr. Subbarayan to Madura, the two Ministers did not know that they were coming there on the same day. The hon. Mr. Arogyaswami Mudaliyar was going to Tinnevely to open the pearl fisheries, and the Zamindar of Seithar asked him, ‘on your way to Tinnevely you must break your journey for a day at Madura’. Without knowing each other’s presence, the hon. Mr. Arogyaswami Mudaliyar broke the journey at Madura and thus placed us in a very awkward and irksome position because we had already arranged parties to the hon. the Chief Minister and we could not show similar cordiality or hospitality to the other Minister because he never informed us beforehand. However, when he next comes there that defect, we hope, will be rectified. I am sure that

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[Mr. Abbas Ali Khan]

when he comes there next he will be received on a much grander scale. My object in referring to that is to state the circumstances under which the two Ministers happened to be at Madura at the same time.

“ Much has been made of the fact that the adverse vote on the excise policy was tantamount to a vote of censure. I beg to differ from the hon. Member, Mr. Krishnan Nayar, for whom I have great personal regard. There were many a critical and awkward position when the Justice party was in power for the last six years, and but for the suave personality of the Raja Sahib, for whom the Mussalman Members were particularly cordial in their affections, the Justice party would have been long ago out of office. I believe in the year 1925 when all the Muhammadan Members *en bloc* voted in favour of the excise policy of that party, it was because the hon. the Chief Minister held out a promise that due weight and consideration would be given to the wishes of the Mussalman Members. But I regret to see that they were not able to carry out their pledges; I can understand their limitations and shortcomings, and I do not blame them. Any other party in that position could not have done better. Anyhow, any adverse vote on the excise policy now cannot be considered as a vote of censure on the present Ministry.

“ With reference to the constitutional position of the Ministers, I am glad that they are keeping themselves thoroughly in touch with the opinions of all parties in the House. It is not merely that they are enjoying office at the sufferance of the majority party but that when they lose the confidence of the Opposition benches, they will cease to function.

“ One other thing I see is that the most turbulent, the most restive wild horse which the Swaraj party was proving to be has been broken. Whether our claim that we have broken the most restive and wild horse is right or not, they are now sitting quiet on their Opposition benches and are not going to vote for this motion.

“ I may also say that we never expected in the least that our party will be called to office. They have been there in office only for two or three months and I hope that the Members will not give a hesitating vote because no chance has been given to the Ministry to distinguish itself.”

Mr. B. RAMACHANDRA REDDI :—“ It looks as though the monopoly of moving no-confidence motions is being had by hon. Members from Chittoor. In 1923, when a no-confidence motion was moved by an hon. Member from Chittoor, there was any amount of enthusiasm on the Opposition to throw down the then Ministry. But, now, we see the very sorry spectacle of the Opposition sitting quiet and sullen, not being able to move in any way in regard to their attitude to the existing Ministry. It shows that the enthusiasm that existed about three years ago has come down with a tragic fall, and the Swarajists now are keeping quiet without showing themselves that they are in opposition. And the speech made by the hon. the Leader of the Swaraj Party which seemed that it was intended only to the Chair and to the reporter, and not at all to the House. . . .”

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—“ Order, order. It is always intended to the Chair.”

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Mr. B. RAMACHANDRA REDDI :—“ I mean to say that nobody else could hear it. Sir, that shows the want of enthusiasm on the part of the Leader and his followers in regard to this motion.

“ Now, taking the present motion into consideration directly, I will say that, so far, the Ministers have done nothing to gain the confidence of this House or the world at large.

“ First of all, I wish to make a few observations on the activities of those three Ministers before I go to answer the several questions that have been raised by hon. Members in this House. The hon. the Minister for Education has been giving out that the furtherance of university education is of no use. I am glad that now he has revised his idea, perhaps for his good and for the good of the country, and if such a Minister should take the responsible office of Education Minister, if he should come with opinions that have not been formed properly, and if he should take the world by surprise by saying that the furtherance of university education is no good, we, Sir, will not uphold the cause of such a Minister. The whole world is moving towards the advancement of university education. But he, with all his foreign education, comes and tells the world, as soon as he takes up the portfolio of Education, that no further university education is needed. That is a deplorable and sad commentary upon the hon. the Education Minister's attitude.

“ Next, Sir, I have a word to say about the Development Minister. He seems to have chosen a very light portfolio. No doubt it is a portfolio of the Development Department, which has never developed and will never develop until the Finance Department of this Government gives more money for that department. He seems to have chosen a very light portfolio so that he might have enough time to fish greater support in this hon. House, to support him in season and out of season, and to get more votes from the Opposition to his own side so that his place may be secured for ever.

“ Then, Sir, the hon. Mr. Arogyaswami Mudaliyar, for whom I have got the greatest respect, has shown his utter lack of sympathy towards the medical institutions in the rural areas. I am not going to weary this House with any details but I will touch upon only one point and leave the hon. House to judge for itself. In answer to a question of mine about the encouragement given to rural dispensaries and the Ayurvedic system of medicine, he told the House that he was not going to give such encouragement at all and when he was asked whether all the local bodies had been asked to furnish information about the working of these Ayurvedic institutions, he said that he did not ask them to do so though at the same time he jumped to the conclusion that the Ayurvedic dispensaries could not be encouraged now. So far the Ministry has not done anything to gain the confidence either of this House or the public outside.

“ Just now on a former motion, we heard the hon. the Chief Minister praising the loyalty and devotion of his Secretaries, and we have also heard that he has been making a number of tours in the Presidency, of course to know public opinion, and in these 3½ months, in which he could have gained some knowledge of the work before him, he has not been able to give us a constructive programme of his work. It has been said that it is too short a

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period to know about the present Ministry. Three and a half months in the tenure of life of a Minister is not too short a period to know about the mentality of the Ministers. In these 3½ months, the Ministers have put forth no new ideas for the consideration of this House, and it looks as if they are working on old lines which they have been criticizing before.

“Before the Development Minister takes his office more seriously, I should advise him, Sir, to re-read his own speeches which have been delivered during the last six years in this House, and form a constructive programme for the benefit of this country. If he is not going to do that, if he feels funky over it, he would be better advised to leave the Treasury Bench and go to the Opposition. From the very speech that the hon. the Chief Minister delivered just now about the Corporation and the defence that he put up, so bravely and with so much fury more patent in his face than in his words, I should say that he has gone beyond the limits of autocracy. He has not carried the House with him when he said that he would do everything according to his wish. Of course he would agree with me that in all questions where the country needs reform he ought to take all things into consideration and give an impartial judgment. When the country is against him in this matter, he has the audacity now to say that he has a right to do things according to his will and that is nothing short of autocracy. Autocracy cannot be encouraged by this House, and I hope the Swarajist Members, who are out for democracy and for swaraj and for throwing down this diarchy, with the large numbers at their disposal, will certainly think of throwing out the Ministry and of occupying the Treasury Benches themselves (Swarajists ‘Never, never.’) Well, Sir, I waited for that answer. They have not allowed any Ministry safe voyage through, and even the latest Congress resolution was to the effect that they should throw out the Ministry. What is the position now? They are keeping quiet without moving an inch. On the other hand, the fact that they are keeping sullen certainly confirms the suspicions in the minds of the hon. Members here and the country at large that they are bought by the present Government. I hope that such a position will not be stuck to by the Swarajist party, and that they would vindicate their party programme and throw down the present Ministry”.

The House then adjourned for lunch.

After Lunch (2-30 p.m.).

* Mr. SAMI VENKATACHALAM CHETTI :—“Mr. President, Sir, just before lunch the hon. Member from Nellore Mr. B. Ramachandra Reddi was heard to have said that the Swarajist party was bought by the Ministerialist party.”

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—“Party in the House or Party in the country?”

* Mr. SAMI VENKATACHALAM CHETTI :—“I will explain, Sir.”

* Rao Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU :—“On a point of order, Sir. If my hon. Friend wants to point out any particular term as unparliamentary, he ought to have objected to it immediately it was used.”

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* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" May I know the authority for that ? "

Rao Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU :—" I shall quote the authority. "

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" For the time being the Leader of the Opposition will continue his observations. "

* Mr. SAMI VENKATACHALAM CHETTI :—" Then the opportunity for an objection of this sort could have been taken to-morrow only when a similar objection was taken. Now, Sir, feeling a doubt as to whether Mr. Ramachandra Reddi would have given expression to such a statement as that I wanted to know whether he referred to the Swarajist party in the country or in the House. I met him in the lunch room and asked him if he had said so. He told me that he did. "

Diwan Bahadur M. KRISHNAN NAYAR :—" Sir, I rise to a point of order. I want to know whether it is ordinarily permissible to refer to private conversations outside the House. "

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" No, no. I want first of all to know whether it is a fact. Shall we have information from the hon Member concerned ? "

* Mr. SAMI VENKATACHALAM CHETTI :—" Yes, Sir. "

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" I want to know whether the hon. Member Mr. B. Ramachandra Reddi said so. "

Mr. B. RAMACHANDRA REDDI :—" Of course I used the word ' Bought ', Sir. "

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" Did the hon. Member use that word with reference to the Swarajist party in the House, or, was it in his mind ? "

Mr. B. RAMACHANDRA REDDI :—" I shall say, Sir. I never put any obnoxious meaning on it at all. I never meant that the Swarajist party has been bought financially. I only meant that they have been won over. "

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" Won over ? "

Mr. B. RAMACHANDRA REDDI :—" Yes, Sir. "

* Mr. SAMI VENKATACHALAM CHETTI :—" That seems to be a strange explanation, Sir, that he did not mean, when he used the words ' bought over ', that we were bought over financially, but by some other method. Probably Mr. Ramachandra Reddi knows how it can be brought about. I am not quite aware of it. Mr. Ramachandra Reddi says that he did not mean any insult in what he said. I have no mind to press it as I learn from him that he did not thereby mean any insult to the party. "

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" The hon. Member says that he shall be satisfied if Mr. Ramachandra Reddi did not mean any insult. "

Mr. B. RAMACHANDRA REDDI :—" I certainly gave expression to that when I made my personal remarks. I never meant anything obnoxious, nor did I attribute any dishonesty to the Swarajist party. "

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* The hon. the PRESIDENT:—"The House will now resume the debate upon Mr. Muniswami Nayudu's motion."

* Mr. V. Ch. JOHN:—"Mr. President, Sir, I am a novice in politics and one of my hon. friends on the other side said, 'Mr. John, you are new to this Council. You do not know this game. So, think before you leap.' It may be true or may not be true but I somehow feel like that when I hear the charges levelled against the present Ministry. I do not understand one thing. For the last six years the Justice party had been in power. They had been preaching from the housetops that they did not want non-co-operation, and that they wanted everybody to co-operate with them and with the Government. Now, after six years, if the non-co-operators co-operate with the Government or even if they tolerate it how that is going against the interests of the country according to your policy I fail to understand. Not only that the Justice party is now beginning to attribute motives to people who would like to give the present Ministry a fair chance before they condemn it. Sir, when one attributes motives to the other, one is uncharitable in 99 cases out of 100. Again, the charges levelled against the Ministry are so hollow that they do not require any refutation, because the present Ministers have been in power only for three months. When the country tolerated the Justice Ministry for six long years even after they had done so many obnoxious things, I will call it indecent haste for the Justice party if it cannot tolerate the present Ministry for three months. They ought not to have brought this proposition at all. This reminds me of a story in the Old Testament which I will relate to the House. There were two women living in one house and both of them had children. One of them lost her child and so in the dead of night she carried the dead child to where the other woman was lying with her child. She placed her dead child by the side of the other woman and carried away the living child. This case was taken before Solomon the Wise for judgment. Solomon the Wise said, 'Well, bring that living child to me'. The child was accordingly brought to him. He took a sword and pretended to cut it into two parts so that he might give them one piece each. When he was about to do this the real mother of the child said: 'Don't cut it, but give it to the other woman'. But the other woman said: 'Please do cut the baby into parts and give us one part each.' The Justice party's argument is something like the latter's. You have lost your child (figuratively) and you do not want anybody else to have children. (Laughter.) Why do you exhaust all this—all your venom—within three months? You say with one breath that this Ministry is not good and with the same breath you say that the present Ministry is also non-Brahman in its composition and that the Ministers are an honest lot and you are glad that they are the Ministers. You say Mr. Arogyaswami Mudaliyar is most honest and yet (laughter) you do not want him. (Loud laughter.) You say that Mr. Ranganatha Mudaliyar is an honest soul and that his motives are pure and yet you do not want him as a Minister. I think you cannot tolerate anybody else here on the Treasury Bench except yourselves. (Laughter.)

"If the Swarajists play your game and co-operate with you and put you back into power once again would you not like it? It is just this that you want. You want them to co-operate with you and not with anybody else.

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“If the non-co-operators become co-operators and co-operate with us even if they are neutral, you ought to celebrate that day. It is for that we have been working all these six years. After six long years they are at least tolerating the Ministry. Instead of appreciating that, you fume and foam and fret and say all sorts of things here which you cannot substantiate. I tell you, you are behaving like children. Although I have been here only for three months in this Council, I may tell you that you are acting like disappointed children inwardly clamouring for things which others possess and which you cannot snatch away from them.” (Laughter.)

* Mr. K. KRISHNAN :—“I did not want to make any speech on this motion, but on hearing the speeches of some of my friends I am obliged to make some remarks. Mr. Narayanaswami Pillai remarked that the Swarajist party was changing its opinion and co-operating with the Independents. I do not know, Sir, whether that is a fact. If I understand them correctly, I think they are remaining neutral, because they think that the Ministry has not made out a case for them to vote it down. In the same manner I heard Mr. Abbas Ali say that the wild horse has been broken, or rather, they were trying to break the wild horse and harness it. It was unfortunate. My opinion, however, is that it was the other way about. It is not a wild horse. It is a trained horse. What they say is that they are not prepared to draw the chariot thinking that there is danger ahead. That is all their attitude. I think no one can take exception to that attitude. I am obliged to say that there is an impression that on this side of the House advantage has been taken of the silence of the Swarajist party into thinking that they have changed their politics. The Leader of the Opposition is yet to make some remarks about the buying over of his party by this side of the House, and so on. It is to dispel any such impression that I have risen to make these remarks.

“As regards the remarks made on the motion itself, I think the less said about it the better. I think it is absolutely impossible to judge a Ministry within three months of its existence. If I remember aright, this is the second occasion when a censure motion is brought before the House. On the last occasion it was after three long years of the existence of the Justice Ministry that a censure motion was brought forward and there were then enough materials to urge in support of that motion and even then it was defeated. The Justice party should have waited to bring in a motion of this kind for about that period, because only then they will know what this Ministry has been able to achieve. I do not think there is any necessity to refute any of the arguments advanced in support of this motion. I simply rose to dispel from the minds of hon. Members any bad impression that might have been created by the remarks made by my hon. Friends on this side of the House.”

* Mr. V. I. MUNISWAMI PILLAI :—“Mr. President, Sir, the time has not yet come to discuss ‘want of confidence in the Ministry’. As some of my hon. Friends rightly remarked, it is only a few months since they have taken charge and they are just now preparing how best they could carry on the Transferred Half entrusted to them.

“Every one in this House is aware of the great predicament in which the Government was placed in choosing a Ministry after the general elections. The Swarajists decided on the Congress mandate not to accept office; the

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[Mr. V. I. Muniswami Pillai]

mallness of the number returned at the poll of the Justice candidates further added to the difficulties, and His Excellency the Governor of Madras rightly chose the present Ministry from the Independent party which alone could ensure the working of the Reforms at that moment.

“ There is a cry for more reforms and it is up to this Ministry to prepare the ground for the further reforms required. In this great attempt the Ministry should make every provision for the betterment of the depressed classes so that they may also rise to the occasion with the other communities.”

* The hon. Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN :—“ Sir, I want to say a few words. I would not have intervened in this debate at this stage seeing that the House is ready for the question but for the remarks which fell from the hon. Member Mr. B. Ramachandra Reddi. I do not think he intended to say what he said as is evident from the explanation he gave about the word ‘ bought ’.

“ I want to say a few words about university education to which I referred earlier. My point was that the university education given at present is not one that ought to be encouraged. We ought, on the other hand, to try and devise a system by which it will be possible to manufacture not only clerks as it has been the case in India, but also manufacture people who would take an intelligent part in public affairs and who would be able to ameliorate the condition of the masses in the rural parts. We have heard so much about the rural parts being left alone. The fault is not so much that of the bureaucracy as of our educated classes, for the simple reason that, having known that the cost of the university education we have received has come out of the taxes paid by the rural agricultural population, the small tenant farmer, we owe a duty to them to see that the education is moulded in such a way as to be suitable to the conditions of the country. That was what I meant. 2-45 p.m.

“ The hon. Member spoke also of the hon. Development Minister having a light portfolio so that he might go from this bench to that bench in order to get support for the Ministry. I am afraid he is making very unjust aspersions on my hon. Friend the Development Minister. On the other hand, the Minister for Development now has far more subjects than the Development Minister had in the late Justice Ministry. He has Public Works and Registration added on and I am sure my hon. Friend, Sir A. P. Patro, will be able to tell the House that Public Works, by itself, is such an enormous subject that the Minister in charge will really have no time to do the things which my hon. Friend, Mr. Ramachandra Reddi, complains of. With regard to rural dispensaries again, my hon. Friend mistook the intention of my colleague Mr. Arogyaswami Mudaliyar. What he intended to say in regard to Ayurvedic dispensaries was that he was in favour of opening such dispensaries in the rural areas, but at present, competent and qualified men who could run the dispensaries were not available. Owing to the exertions of my hon. Friend the Raja of Panagal, a Government School of Indian Medicine has been started in Madras. When sufficient number of graduates from that institution are available, I am sure my hon. Friend will not be behind anybody in opening Ayurvedic dispensaries when he finds that the time has come for such things.

[Dr. P. Subbarayan]

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"My hon. Friend Mr. Muniswami Nayudu said that our party was not large enough to form the Ministry. I think I may say that we have got as many members, perhaps more than my hon. Friend's party has.

"With regard to the Corporation I am afraid my hon. Friend mistook my word. I only said that there was. . ."

Diwan Bahadur M. KRISHNAN NAYAR :—"Is my hon. Friend allowed to go over the same ground again and again?"

* The hon. Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN :—"The hon. Friend Mr. Ramachandra Reddi referred to that particularly. Probably the hon. Member from Malabar was sleeping during that time.

"What I intended to say with regard to the Corporation was that we have tried to go as far as possible according to the wishes of the Corporation. As Mr. Krishnan Nayar himself said, we have made up with the Corporation to a certain extent. I have nothing more to add."

* Mr. C. K. WOOD :—"Mr. President, Sir, I do not feel quite at home in speaking on this motion as I am not quite certain whether a token motion of this nature attacking the Ministers' salaries is to be regarded, if carried, as a call for their resignations, or whether it is merely a warning to record disagreement with their policy.

"If, in such circumstances, the resignation of the Ministers must follow we should now look round the House and decide first who is to replace them.

"I was very sorry indeed, and so were all the members of the small section of the House for whom I speak—the non-official Europeans—when the Swarajist group showed they were afraid to accept office. Had they accepted office they would have had our whole-hearted support in all constitutional measures, and if the day should come when they are found in office they will receive our support so long as their policy is, in our view, sound. Parties are nothing to us.

"As for the hon. Members forming the present Ministry I have known them for many years and have learned to respect each one of them as sincere and conscientious gentlemen. I would therefore strongly deprecate any censure motion at this very early stage which might make it incumbent upon them to resign their portfolios when it must be impossible for them yet to make definite promises about many of the problems with which they have to deal.

"I suggest that this House should at this stage adopt the policy of 'live and let live' and refrain from passing a vote of censure."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—"I take it that the House is now ready for the question (After a pause.) The question is

'that the allotment of Rs. 1,74,000 for pay of officers be reduced by Rs. 100.'"

The question was put to the House and declared lost.

Diwan Bahadur M. Krishnan Nayar demanded a poll.

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The hon. the PRESIDENT:—(After a pause) “The question is that the allotment of Rs. 1,74,000 for pay of officers be reduced by Rs. 100.”

The question was put and the House divided as follows:—

Ayes.

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1. Mr. B. Ramachandra Reddi. | 8. Muhammad Khadir Mohidin Sahib Bahadur. |
| 2. Rao Bahadur C. S. Ratnasabapati Mudaliyar. | 9. Diwan Bahadur S. Kumaraswami Reddiyar. |
| 3. Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. Patro. | 10. Rao Bahadur B. Muniswami Nayudu. |
| 4. Diwan Bahadur M. Krishnan Nayar. | 11. Mr. K. Sarabha Reddi. |
| 5. Mr. P. T. Rajan. | 12. Rao Bahadur K. Sitaram Reddi. |
| 6. " T. K. Chidambaranatha Mudaliyar. | |
| 7. Diwan Bahadur P. C. Ethirajulu Nayudu. | |

Noes.

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| 1. The hon. Sir C. P. Ramaswami Ayyar. | 27. Subadar-Major S. A. Nanjappa Bahadur. |
| 2. " Mr. N. E. Marjoribanks. | 28. Mr. Al. Ar Narayanan Chettiyar. |
| 3. " Khan Bahadur Muhammad Usman Sahib Bahadur. | 29. " T. M. Narayanaswami Pillai. |
| 4. " Mr. T. E. Moir. | 30. " C. R. Parthasarathi Ayyangar. |
| 5. " Diwan Bahadur E. N. Arogyaswami Mudaliyar. | 31. " Ramanath Goenka. |
| 6. " Mr. A. Ranganatha Mudaliyar. | 32. " N. Siva Raj. |
| 7. " Dr. P. Subbarayan. | 33. " M. V. Gangudara Siva. |
| 8. Mr. T. R. Venkatarama Sastriyar. | 34. " W. P. A. Soundarapandia Natar. |
| 9. " J. F. Hall. | 35. " T. C. Srinivasa Ayyangar. |
| 10. " P. L. Moore. | 36. " S. Subramanya Mooppanar. |
| 11. " Gnanavarnam Pillai. | 37. " Chavadi K. Subrahmanya Pillai. |
| 12. " G. T. Boag. | 38. Rao Sahib P. V. S. Sundaramurti Pillai. |
| 13. " V. Pandrang Rao. | 39. Mr. D. Thomas. |
| 14. " S. H. Slater. | 40. " S. V. Vanavudaiya Goundar. |
| 15. " C. B. Cotterell. | 41. " S. Venkiah. |
| 16. Khan Bahadur Muhammad Bazi-ul-lah Sahib Bahadur. | 42. " K. R. Venkatarama Ayyar. |
| 17. The Zamindar of Seithur. | 43. " K. Krishnan. |
| 18. Mr. Wahab Sahib. | 44. " M. R. Seturatnam Ayyar. |
| 19. Khan Bahadur Abbas Ali. | 45. The Zamindar of Gollapalli. |
| 20. Mr. C. D. Appavu Chettiyar. | 46. Mr. G. Premayya. |
| 21. " H. B. Ari Gowder. | 47. Syed Tajudin Sahib Bahadur. |
| 22. " A. Balakrishna Shetty. | 48. Swami A. S. Sahajanandam. |
| 23. " J. Bheemayya. | 49. Rao Sahib A. Srinivasan. |
| 24. " V. Ch. John. | 50. Mr. H. F. P. Hearson. |
| 25. Mahmud Sahamnad Sahib Bahadur. | 51. " C. E. Wood. |
| 26. Muppl Nayar of Kavalappara alias Kumaran Raman. | 52. Rao Sahib L. C. Guruswami. |
| | 53. Mr. V. I. Muniswami Pillai. |

Neutral.

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| 1. Mr. Sami Venkatachalam Chetti. | 9. Mr. K. V. R. Swami. |
| 2. " N. Satyamurti. | 10. " M. Narayana Rao. |
| 3. " C. V. Venkataramana Ayyangar. | 11. " J. A. Saldanha. |
| 4. " P. Anjaneyulu. | 12. " U. Ramawami Ayyar. |
| 5. " K. Koti Reddi. | 13. Sriman Biswanath Das Mahasayc |
| 6. " C. S. Govindaraja Mudaliyar. | 14. Mr. K. R. Karant. |
| 7. " G. Harisarvottama Rao. | 15. " K. V. Krishnaswami Nayakar. |
| 8. " C. N. Mathuranga Mudaliyar. | 16. " J. Kuppaswami. |

Ayes 12. Noes 53. Neutral 16.

The motion was lost.

* The hon. the PRESIDENT:—“ May I know which of the remaining motions the Justice Party want to move? I suppose the Congress Party is not moving any of these motion ”

[21st March 1927]

Rao Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU :—" Motion No. 497 regarding the reduction of the salaries of Ministers."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" The rest are withdrawn."

* Mr. T. C. SRINIVASA AYYANGAR :—" I should like to move my motion."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" Yes."

* Mr. T. C. SRINIVASA AYYANGAR :—" Mr President, Sir, I move

' that the allotment of Rs. 2,24,500 for Ministers be reduced by Rs. 100.'

" I merely want to raise the question of Council secretaryship. The Montford Report, the Joint Committee's report and the Government of India Act have recommended the appointment of Council secretaries not only to the Ministers but also to the Executive Councillors."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" Does the hon. Member propose to raise the question of the appointment of Council secretaries to Executive Councillors?"

* Mr. T. C. SRINIVASA AYYANGAR :—" Yes, Sir."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" I do not think it is in order."

* Mr. T. C. SRINIVASA AYYANGAR :—" I sent up a motion in connection with the allotment for the Legislative Council principally to raise this question."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" The hon. Member ought to have brought to my notice when that demand was under discussion. We are now concerned with the Ministers and not with the Executive Councillors. The discussion on this point cannot be allowed to proceed. If really a mistake was committed by my office, the hon. Member ought to have brought it to my notice while the demand was under discussion."

3 p.m. * Mr. T. C. SRINIVASA AYYANGAR :—" Sir, I bow to your ruling; as regards the other aspect of the matter, may I be permitted to say a few words?"

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" Yes, with regard to the appointment of Council secretaries to the Ministers."

* Mr. T. C. SRINIVASA AYYANGAR :—" There are Council secretaries provided for the Ministers. For the other half of the Government also the Act provides for the appointment of secretaries. The provision of Council secretaries to Ministers or Executive Councillors should be of great value to the elected Members as it would enable them to come into touch with the work of the departments. Further, the provision will be of great educative value."

" One another matter in connection with this subject which I wish to place before the House is that the secretaryship to the Ministers or Executive Councillors may be of an honorary character. The pay of Rs 500 provided for is too low to attract capable men and to add to the salary would be an unnecessary additional burden as increasing the expenditure. If elected Members have got the necessary enthusiasm and also public spirit, it will

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enable them to take up the duties and discharge them to the satisfaction of the Council and also to their constituents. I therefore suggest for the consideration of both halves of the Government that secretaries may be appointed and that the secretaryship may be honorary."

* The hon. Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN :—" Mr. President, Sir, I am very glad to have the suggestion made by my hon. Friend from Madura. I am entirely in agreement with his statement though I think Council secretaries may be necessary in the sense of learning the work of the department and, as was stated by my hon. Friend, a sum of Rs. 500 is not enough really to attract individuals of the kind and ability we would like to have. I therefore think that it would be very much better to have Council secretaries who would work honorarily. It is for the Executive Council Members to say whether they wish to have Council secretaries. I am only talking with regard to the Ministers. The Council secretaries would help the Ministers in answering questions, etc."

* Mr. T. C. SRINIVASA AYYANGAR :—" I do not want to press the motion. But I would like to know what the hon. the Leader of the House has to say on this matter."

The motion was by leave withdrawn.

* RAO Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU :—" Sir, I beg to move

' to reduce the allotment of Rs. 2,24,600 for Ministers by Rs. 48,000.'

" The motion is for a substantial cut in the salary. So far as I am concerned and my party is concerned, we do not really think that the salary which is now fixed to the Ministers should not be given to them or that they are not entitled to get that amount. I am moving this for this purpose, viz., to express the opinion of this Council as to whether, in view of the former statements made by my hon. Friends on the Treasury Bench and also by this side of the House, whether the salary now claimed by the present Ministry and taken by the past Ministry is or is not a proper salary. I will only quote one statement of the hon. the 2nd Minister made even in 1925, not to speak of pronouncements made by him before or since 1921. This is what he said :—" The hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government asked us whether we thought that the ranks of Ministers should be filled by those who had already earned enough money. It is not that. We say that they should be given such pay as would induce honest and efficient folk to discharge the duty satisfactorily and I firmly believe that a pay of Rs. 3,000 is a sum enough for any competent and honest man to discharge the duty efficiently and well.' I leave the Minister to say whether he has since changed that opinion."

* The hon. Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN :—" Mr. President, Sir, I only want to say this. With regard to the reduction of salaries, if any move of that kind ought to come, it ought to come from the Ministers themselves. There is provision in the budget and we have not made any announcement. If a motion of this kind is carried, I take it as a vote of censure on the Ministry."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" I believe the House is ready for the question."

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The motion was put to the House and declared lost. A poll was demanded and the House divided as follows:—

Ayes.

- | | |
|---------------------------------------|---|
| 1. The Kumararaja of Venkatagiri. | 8. Mr. Muhammad Khadir Mohidin Sahib. |
| 2. Mr. B. Ramachandra Reddi. | 9. Diwan Bahadur S. Kumaraswami Reddiyar. |
| 3. Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. Patro. | 10. Rao Bahadur B. Muniswami Nayudu. |
| 4. Diwan Bahadur M. Krishnan Nayar. | 11. Mr. K. Sarabha Reddi. |
| 5. Mr. P. T. Rajan. | 12. Rao Bahadur K. Sitarama Reddi. |
| 6. „ T. K. Chidambaranatha Mudaliyar. | |
| 7. Rao Sahib S. Ellappa Chettiyar. | |

Noes.

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1. The hon. Sir C. P. Ramaswami Ayyar. | 28. Subbadar Major S. A. Nanjappa Bahadur. |
| 2. „ Mr. N. E. Marjoribanks. | 29. Mr. Al. Ar. Narayana Chettiyar. |
| 3. „ Khan Bahadur Muhammad Usman Sahib Bahadur. | 30. Rao Bahadur O. M. Narayana Nambudripad. |
| 4. „ Mr. T. E. Moir. | 31. Mr. T. M. Narayanaswami Pillai. |
| 5. „ Diwan Bahadur R. N. Arogyaswami Mudaliyar. | 32. „ C. R. Parthasarathi Ayyangar. |
| 6. „ Mr. A. Ranganatha Mudaliyar. | 33. „ Ramanath Goenka. |
| 7. „ Dr. P. Subbarayan. | 34. „ N. Siva Raj. |
| 8. Mr. T. R. Venkatarama Sastriyar. | 35. „ M. V. Gangadhara Siva. |
| 9. „ J. F. Hall. | 36. „ W. P. A. Soundarapandia Nadar. |
| 10. „ P. L. Moore. | 37. „ T. C. Srinivasa Ayyangar. |
| 11. „ Gnanavaram Pillai. | 38. „ S. Subbrahmanya Mooppanar. |
| 12. „ G. T. Boag. | 39. „ K. Ch. Subramania Pillai. |
| 13. „ V. Pandrang Rao. | 40. Rao Sahib P. V. S. Sundaramurti. |
| 14. „ S. H. Slater. | 41. Mr. D. Thomas. |
| 15. „ C. B. Cotterell. | 42. „ S. V. Vanavudaiya Goundar. |
| 16. Khan Bahadur Muhammad Bazul-lah Sahib. | 43. „ S. Venkiah. |
| 17. The Zamindar of Seithur. | 44. „ K. R. Venkatarama Ayyar. |
| 18. Munshi Abdul Wahab Sahib. | 45. „ K. Krishnan. |
| 19. Mr. Abbas Ali Khan. | 46. „ M. R. Seturatnam Ayyar. |
| 20. „ C. D. Appavu Chettiyar. | 47. The Zamindar of Gollapalli. |
| 21. „ H. B. Ari Gowder. | 48. Mr. G. Premayya. |
| 22. „ A. Balakrishna Shetty. | 49. Syed Tajuddin Sahib Bahadur. |
| 23. „ J. Bheemayya. | 50. Swami A. S. Sahajanandam. |
| 24. „ V. Ch. John. | 51. Rao Sahib R. Srinivasan. |
| 25. „ Mahmud Sahammad Sahib. | 52. Mr. H. F. P. Hearson. |
| 26. „ Kavalappara Muppil Nayar. | 53. „ C. R. T. Congreve. |
| 27. „ B. Nagan Gowda. | 54. „ C. E. Wood. |
| | 55. Rao Sahib L. O. Guruswami. |
| | 56. Mr. V. I. Muniswami Pillai. |

Neutral.

- | | |
|-----------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| 1. Mr. Sami Venkatachalam Chetti. | 11. Mr. K. Uppi Sahib. |
| 2. „ S. Satyamurti. | 12. „ U. Ramaswami Ayyar. |
| 3. „ C. V. Venkatarama Ayyangar. | 13. „ P. Bhaktavatsula Nayudu. |
| 4. „ P. Anjaneyulu. | 14. Sriman Biswanath Das Mahasayo. |
| 5. „ K. Koti Reddi. | 15. Mr. A. Kaleswara Rao. |
| 6. „ C. S. Govindaraja Mudaliyar. | 16. „ B. Srinivasa Ayyangar. |
| 7. „ H. Harisarvottama Rao. | 17. „ L. K. Tulasiram. |
| 8. „ C. N. Muthuranga Mudaliyar. | 18. „ K. Krishnaswami Nayakar. |
| 9. „ K. V. R. Swami. | 19. „ C. Venkatarangam Nayudu. |
| 10. „ M. Narayana Rao. | 20. „ C. S. Ratnasabapati Mudaliyar. |

Ayes 12. *Noes* 56. *Neutral* 20.

The motion was lost.

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* Rao Sahib L. C. GURUSWAMI :—“ Mr. President, Sir, I beg to move
‘ to reduce the allotment of Rs. 15,700 for pay of officers by Rs. 100.’”

“ My object is to discuss the question of nominations of the members belonging to Arundhataya (Madiga) community to local bodies. The depressed classes are indebted to the Government for kindly nominating a large number from among them to this Council. But there are local bodies in this Presidency which cannot boast of a couple of members to represent the backward classes. Even where some seats are reserved, no prompt measures are taken to fill them and no chances given to different sections of the depressed classes. I learn that in the mufassal local bodies obstacles are placed in the way of proper men getting into them. There is also a general impression among the officers responsible for recommending nominations that depressed classes mean only Adi-Dravidas. But I do not grudge my brethren of that community their share of responsibility in carrying on the work of administration of their locality. But I wish to impress upon the mind of the Government, and thus on their district officers, to remember that, wherever proper persons are available in my community of Arundhatayas, their claims should be considered and they must be encouraged to take part in those bodies. I have been, whenever chances are given to me in this Council, representing that men of my community stand in the lowest level of the depressed classes. So I trust that the Government will be pleased to issue effective orders to sympathise with my community by nominating members of my community to this Council as well as to the local bodies, such as municipal bodies, taluk and district boards. My community represented to the Government in time to nominate at least three members from among them to this Council. But my brethren were disappointed. I hope that, should there arise any chance in the near future, members of my community will be nominated.”

* The hon. Dr P. SUBBARAYAN :—“ Sir, sub-section (3) of section 7 of the Madras District Municipalities Act and sub-section 5 of section 9 of the Local Boards Act impose an obligation on the appointing authority to have due regard to the representation of Muhammadans, depressed classes and backward classes, and among the depressed classes are included the Madigas whom my hon. Friend Mr. Guruswami represents in this House. We have drawn the attention of presidents of local bodies who have the power to nominate members to taluk boards that they should bear in mind the nomination of the depressed classes whenever they make nominations to taluk boards. The Labour Commissioner has also supplied a list of the local bodies who have no members of the depressed classes on them to the District Board President or Collectors concerned and they have always been told to recommend members belonging to these communities to those bodies. I can give this assurance to the hon. Member that the Government will try, as long as the system of nomination lasts, to see that these classes are adequately represented in the local bodies concerned.”

3-15
P.M.

* Rao Sahib L. C. GURUSWAMI :—“ In view of the assurance given by the hon. the Chief Minister, I beg to withdraw my motion.”

The motion was, by leave of the House, withdrawn.

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—“ The question is that the Government be granted a sum of Rs. 4.32 lakhs under Demand XII—General Administration—Ministers and Civil Secretariats—Transferred for the year 1927-28.”

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The demand was put and carried and the grant was made.

DEMAND XIII—ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE

* The hon. Sir. C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—“ Mr. President, Sir, on the recommendation of His Excellency the Governor, I beg to move

‘ that Government be granted a sum not exceeding Rs. 84.38 lakhs under the head ‘ Administration of Justice ’.”

* MR. K. KOTI REDDI :—“ Mr. President, Sir, I move

‘ that the allotment of Rs. 68,400 for pay of officers be reduced by Rs. 100 ’.

“ The first question Sir, that I want to raise in this connexion is the expenditure that is incurred separately for criminal and civil justice. My object in doing so is this : as the House is well aware, the expenses on the administration of justice, so far as the criminal side is concerned, ought to be borne entirely by the State ; but in regard to administration of civil justice, there is no such obligation on the part of the State. At the same time, the State has to see that it gains no income out of dealing justice between man and man. As such, I want to have full information which I think the hon. Member once promised to furnish to this House, as to whether the Government is really making any income out of the administration of civil justice. So far as criminal justice is concerned, Sir, I do not think the Government will say that the people involved ought to bear the expenses themselves. I believe the Government will admit, as they have already admitted, that they ought not to make any income out of the administration of civil justice. It may no doubt be a very difficult problem to get the exact expenditure that is incurred on the administration of civil justice, as the officials who administer civil justice at the same time administer criminal justice, etc., but apart from the difficulty arising in respect of that, the Government ought to try, as far as possible, to see that it gets correct figures to find out whether it is getting sufficient income or not. If it is getting more income than expenditure, it must try to reduce it. So far as the people are concerned, I do not want to see that the general taxpayer is made to pay for the sake of civil justice. I do not want to say more on this matter.

“ The second question that I want to raise in this connexion is whether there is any possibility of devising some means to reduce the amount and cost of litigation without impairing justice. It is admitted, Sir, that the expenses that are incurred in connexion with the administration of civil justice are really very high, and the heavy cost is standing as a great stumbling block in the way of many litigants resorting to courts. There are no doubt some ways of reducing the expenditure in which probably the Government will try to see if a reduction could be made, say in the pay of the officers concerned. Of course, that is one possible means of reducing the cost of litigation ; because if the pay of officers is reduced, necessarily the cost of litigation also will come down so far as the people are concerned ; but that is a matter which requires deep investigation by the Government. For, in the matter of administration of justice, the State has to see whether a reduction of pay would not sometimes tend to various forms of corruption which this House may not be willing to allow. But I believe, Sir, whatever be the pay of the officers, even if the pay of the officers is increased to the maximum amount

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[Mr. K. Koti Reddi]

possible, there will still be a certain percentage of people who will be amenable to corruption if only a temptation is placed in their way. What I say is, to increase the pay and make it sufficiently high, and to give them all the amenities of life that a State could afford to give is no doubt a great help in the way of putting an end to or at any rate reducing corruption; but, I believe, at the same time, that a mere increase in pay, and a mere increase in their amenities of life, will not by themselves put an end to corruption in any department altogether. I must say that so far as the Judicial department is concerned, complaints with regard to that are really very very few. But, at the same time, I would impress on the Government the necessity of devising some means—not merely to depend on an increase in the pay of the officers—by which corruption in all departments can be put an end to, by which some effective check can be placed on the officials of any department with a view to reduce, if not prevent, the corruption that is now going on. But that is a matter on which at present I do not want to speak. I only want to suggest a means by which the amount of litigation could be reduced—of course, I leave it to the Government to consider the suggestion and adopt it or not. Whether they agree with me on that matter or devise some other means themselves, it is absolutely necessary to reduce the cost of litigation and induce people not to resort to litigation more often than is necessary. It is the experience of many an hon. Member in this House, I believe, that administration of justice is becoming more or less a gamble. Getting a correct decision seems to me to be merely a matter of chance. My hon. Friend, the Law Member, does not seem to admit my statement; but I beg leave to say that I have also some experience—though not much—not only as a lawyer but as a litigant also, and I believe really, knowing the conditions as I do, in the villages, that getting a correct decision is a matter of chance. We can get witnesses, witnesses who are prepared to give evidence on our side, and all that; and somehow or other the way in which the British system of justice is administered has considerably added to this chance of getting justice. So, whatever schemes we devise in order to try to get a correct decision on the matter, a good deal of chance is there. It is my purpose to point out a system by which the amount of chance could be reduced, while at the same time the necessity for resorting to courts on too many occasions may be restricted. You will see, Sir, that even for a small amount of property, say worth Rs. 200, the people go to the Munsif's Court, then they go to the District Court and go again on second appeal to the High Court. Probably, in some cases there will be a Letters Patent appeal also. Even in cases of small amounts like Rs. 5 or Rs. 10 I believe there will be people going even to the highest courts of law, even to the Privy Council; because they believe that if they fail to get what they want in one court, there is just a chance of their getting success in other courts. It is the experience of many a lawyer whenever a client goes to him with a weak case, he tells the lawyer 'Very well, Sir, we shall somehow manage, never mind the cost, we shall just try, it is only a chance and we shall succeed if we have luck', and the lawyer is thereby compelled to take up cases of this sort and file them. So, I put forward this scheme which will not necessitate this kind of gambling in litigation. Now you find only one munsif giving judgment, and then his judgment is considered on appeal by another judge. We very often find that the munsif who tried the case originally is more experienced than the

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District Judge who sits in appeal over his decision. Oftentimes it also happens that the decision of the munsif is more correct with regard to the facts than the decision on appeal by the District Judge. I cannot really understand what purpose could be served by one man sitting in judgment over the decision of another. My proposal is this : instead of having one munsif, have a bench of three munsifs and invest them with a jurisdiction of say Rs. 10,000 instead of Rs. 3,000 as at present. If three munsifs try cases, the chance of getting a correct decision is considerably greater than the chance of getting it with one munsif."

* The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—" Mr. President, Sir, I have listened with considerable interest to the remarks that have fallen from my hon. Friend from Cuddapah who has spoken with experience, which, according to himself, was born of a knowledge of the courts not only in the capacity of a lawyer, but also, fortunately or unfortunately, of a litigant."

Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR :—" Unfortunately."

* The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—" That depends on the result."

" Now, Sir, there are two points on which I think it may be useful if I say something in reply. The first is that it seems to be too much taken for granted in all the discussions on this matter that there is something peculiarly characteristic of India in regard to litigation,—that the Indian is essentially or naturally litigious. I want to correct that impression ; because reading the statistics of the English courts,—I have got them here,—you will really find that the Indian is by no means, man for man, more litigious or more cantankerous in the matter of pushing forward his rights or assumed rights than any other person. That is the first point I desire to make, and therefore I do not agree with some of the statements that have emanated from the hon. Member for Cuddapah, to the effect that there is a tendency for litigiousness and there is a gamble. As for that, it is no doubt a fact as is apparent from the judgment of the highest courts in the country and also of the Judicial Committee, that when there is an appeal from the judgment of a court of first instance, the appeal court sometimes goes wrong ; but even this is not a matter which is peculiar to this country.

3-30
p.m.

" If my hon. Friend goes through the pages of the English Law Reports he will find several instances in which the decision of the first court is confirmed and that of the court of appeal is reversed. My hon. Friend has referred to two points. He said that it ought to be possible to make a differentiation between the cost of criminal and civil litigation and exhibit the amount separately. In regard to that I may say that the Civil Justice Committee examined the question and they suggested that the amount of receipts and expenditure in civil and criminal cases ought to be separately exhibited. The hon. the Judges of the High Court were consulted in the matter. There are many great difficulties that will be involved in the separation of these items, as among the different classes of courts. As regards receipts, the main item is court-fees, which is accounted for by the Superintendent of Stationery. Officers who are not subordinate to the High Court act judicially in certain cases. As regards expenditure, an attempt would have to be made to allot the salary and allowances of the hon. the Judges and of munsif District and Sessions Judges, their establishments, the

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contingent expenditure incurred by them on the administration of criminal justice and expenditure incurred by the Advocate-General, Government Solicitor and Law officers in the mufassal in due proportion to the civil and criminal administration of justice. At the present moment, it is thus a well nigh impossible task to differentiate between costs in civil and criminal cases. They must await the complete separation of judicial and executive functions. . . ."

MR. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR :—" When ? "

* The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—" Sir, my hon. Friend knows, none better, that when speaking three days ago from his place in the House of Commons, Earl Winterton stated that the Government of India were considering the replies received and if he had paused to read those answers, he would have further noticed that the Governments of Madras, Bengal and the United Provinces have already sent their replies, but certain other Governments have not sent their replies, and that the Government of India and the Secretary of State will come to a decision after all the replies are received. In those circumstances, what is the point of interjecting ? So far as this Government and this unfortunate Law Member is concerned, all I can say is, that such opinion as this Government entertain on this matter has been forwarded to the Government of India. Is it on that opinion or on that of the Secretary of State also that the Council is going to hold us responsible ? Now, Sir, that is supposed to be one of the bubbles that I have blown : whether that bubble is there or not, it is not solely of my blowing.

"The allocation of expenses is difficult. Then, the other point that was made was as to the reduction of the salaries. On that matter I would not like to enter into details. Wherever you start the theory of retrenchment, I would earnestly appeal to my hon. Friend from Cuddapah and to all the Members that the axe of retrenchment ought not to be laid on the judicial salaries, because it is essential that if judicial administration is to be above reproach, as I unhesitatingly proclaim it is at present, all things considered, that any attempt at reduction of salaries should not be made on the judiciary. There is room for retrenchment in many other directions, but the last direction should be that of judicial salary. In this connexion, it was very gratifying to get the experience of the hon. Member from Cuddapah reinforcing the undoubted opinion, with remarkable exceptions no doubt, throughout the Presidency that the administration of civil and criminal justice is above reproach and that there is no room to criticize it. Opinions have been expressed to the contrary on the floor of this House and have been repudiated. Then it was suggested that so far as civil justice was concerned, one way of dealing with the difficulty would be to have a bench of three judges. I would say this : that it has been the idea which has been put forward by the Civil Justice Committee and by certain others. One difficulty of course, is the difficulty of expense. You will have to make a classification of suits. I would perhaps make it clear. Even now there is nothing in the Civil Courts Act to forbid that, it might be an advantage to try appeals like that, so that there may not be any recourse to the High Court. All I can say is that it is a matter which will have to be considered. It is a new idea which has been put forward on the floor of this House and I would like to have some time to consider that and see whether from the point of view of finance it is feasible."

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* Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—“ There are two points from which this question can be considered, that is from the litigant point of view and from the State point of view. From the State point of view, it is proposed that there should be reduction in the salaries of judges and on that point it is very difficult to pronounce an opinion. Considering the remarks of the hon. the Law Member I should find it difficult to reduce the expenditure on judges. But there is one way. As we have created village panchayat courts for petty civil suits, we might have in the headquarters or in taluks a sort of benches with honorary judicial officers. I do not know whether that experiment has ever been suggested. Should there be panchayat courts at headquarters, retired judicial officers and others could try small cause suits without salaries; and this would reduce to some extent a lot of the cost of litigation. We have got in England a number of honorary judges who deal with civil litigation; I do not know why this experiment should not be tried in India.

“ As to the cost to the litigant, England is always pointed out as a sort of model to be followed in India. The English system of litigation has been from the most ancient times most cumbersome, technical and costly.”

* The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—“ What I said was not as to the following of the English procedure, but as to the litigiousness of the people. I said that in England, Scotland and Ireland, the litigiousness is not less than in India and therefore that is no reproach upon Indians in regard to litigiousness.”

* Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—“ If English people are litigious that does not follow that we also ought to imitate them. Litigation has become a real gamble and many people enjoy it as a gamble and to some extent it has been a sort of luxury as it were. Naturally there is an amount of money wasted in litigation which could very well be spent for better purposes. How to avoid gamble in litigation is a point which has been to some extent touched by the Civil Justice Committee, but unfortunately the Civil Justice Committee was composed almost of lawyers and judges who think that the English system is the best in the world. On the continent litigation is much less costly, because on the continent, for instance, in Germany and France they have not got the court-fee system.”

Mr. Abbas Ali rose to interrupt.

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—“ The hon. Member will be called next.”

* Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—“ There is enormous waste of time and money on litigation in India as compared with Germany and France. Why then the Civil Justice Committee who took so much evidence could not have compared our system of litigation with other countries and found out a way of cheapening litigation and the causes of delay? It is a pity that so much money has been spent by the Civil Justice Committee, and their report is still lying idle in the shelves and is hardly touched. I do not think any action has been taken on the report except on one or two points, and I do not think that any legislation on the lines suggested by the Civil Justice Committee has been undertaken.”

* The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—“ Three Acts were passed in the Assembly.”

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* **MR. ABBAS ALI KHAN** :—"Sir, I rise to controvert two of the points which were raised by Mr. Saldanha. One was that the village panchayat system should be extended. As regards that point, I entirely disagree with the views expressed by my hon. Friend because whatever might have been the success of the panchayat system in ancient days as a practical proposition it has absolutely failed to give satisfaction to any class of people."

* **MR. J. A. SALDANHA** :—"I question."

* **MR. ABBAS ALI KHAN** :—"I know that in my own district of Madura and in Ramnad the villages are so much divided into factions, that people have very little confidence in the panchayats."

* **DIWAN BAHADUR P. C. ETHIRAJULU NAYUDU** :—"On a point of order, Sir. Are members allowed to sleep in benches?" (Laughter.).

* **THE HON. THE PRESIDENT** :—"There is no point of order."

* **MR. ABBAS ALI KHAN** :—"Almost all the decisions arrived at by such panchayat courts are always attacked. I, as a lawyer of 15 years' standing, can say with an amount of authority that in almost every case, the decision of the panchayat court is always attacked and very unpleasant allegations are made. I have myself moved for the transfer of many cases on grounds of very distasteful allegations. Many of them are completely true and I cannot understand how in the face of the experience of many lawyers in the mufassal that the panchayat courts have failed to function in the way in which they were intended to be at the time they were constituted, my friend Mr. Saldanha with his usual interesting experiences, should have come forward to make a statement on the floor of this House asking for an extension of the principle."

"As regards the second point that in Germany and France the court-fee system does not exist. I was in Germany quite recently. As a litigant I had recourse to a court of law there. When the Mark exchange was in favour of other countries, a number of people purchased a lot of articles, and with a view to prohibit the exportation of goods from their own country, under the Dawes plan, I was mulcted in a considerable sum, and I had to spend some money by way of court-fees, because some people promised to deliver goods but refused to deliver them to me. Therefore I had to go to a court of law and spend a considerable amount of money by way of court-fees to get proper justice. So, Sir, there is no foundation for the observations made by Mr. Saldanha."

* **MR. P. C. VENKATAPATI RAJU** :—"Mr. President, Sir, it is rather unfortunate that in matters dealing with the judiciary generally the legal profession has got the upper hand in representing the grievances both of the Bench and the Bar. The Bar which has taken so much interest in the political activities, with an eye on the Bench, will certainly be very considerate towards judicial posts. But for the exhortation of the hon. the Law Member that we should not touch the salaries of the judicial officers, I would not have risen to speak on this motion." 3-45 p.m.

* **THE HON. SIR C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR** :—"With great respect, what I said was that retrenchment ought to touch judicial officers last."

* **MR. P. C. VENKATAPATI RAJU** :—"But if we take into consideration the extraordinary salaries paid to judicial officers in this country, I think the judiciary should come first in the matter of retrenchment. He was

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telling us that just to keep it honest we would have to pay the same salaries. I wonder whether he concedes that before the recent increment which was uncalled for and unasked for in the pay of the officers of the Judicial department they were less honest”

* The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR:—“They are even more honest.”

* Mr. P. C. VENKATAPATI RAJU:—“If it comes to the question of criminal courts, ‘this experiment of increase of salaries,’ has been tried and I think the hon. the Law Member will be able to gauge how far his other department—the Police department—has increased in honesty by the increase in their salaries. The judiciary in this country is over-paid. Even the highest judicial officer in such advanced and wealthy countries as Germany and France is paid about £2,000 per annum. Making a comparison with regard to litigation, he was telling us that India is not more litigious than other countries. But I may say in trying to weigh or appreciate this fact, we have to bear in mind that of the vast population of the country, most of the people are very poor and even if they want, cannot take to litigation. He is taking into consideration the strength of the population, but if he were to take the number of persons who can afford litigation in this country compared with those in other countries, he will see that even we have got a good share of litigation. My impression is that just as by creating greater opportunities and temptations, by having more liquor shops in this country, drinking has increased, so also by having more Judicial courts and creating facilities for the people to easily go to these courts, the litigation of the country has increased. And after all, with regard to the justice that is meted out to the people resorting to these courts, it is better that little is said about it. My friend Mr. Abbas Ali was telling us that panchayats were not working properly. We have all our eyes open against the actions and activities of unpaid honorary officers whereas we shut our eyes against the paid servants of the country. We bestow pointed attention upon these poor honorary, not well-equipped workers in the country and are able to point out some dereliction or failing in their duties, whereas we leave alone, with our eyes wide open, all the vagaries found in these Judicial courts. But with regard to the honorary courts which have recently been introduced, it does not mean that if they are not now working properly they will not work well even hereafter. In the matter of appointing these honorary officers if a little more care and a little more circumspection is bestowed upon the matter by the authorities, I have no doubt that we can improve the working of the honorary courts and thereby reduce to a great extent the cost that is being unnecessarily incurred upon the creation of more new courts.”

* Mr. G. HARISARVOTTAMA RAO:—“Mr. President, Sir, I did not propose to speak upon this question. I rise now because the question of panchayats has been introduced into the discussion and we have been told in a very serious manner that panchayats have failed in villages. It is rather curious how we have begun to argue. We have introduced a system of administration which is in itself faulty, which is in itself unsuited to the circumstances of the country, which is in itself cumbrous and which depends upon the will of the foreigners for its expansion or contraction. In the case of the administration of justice also the system as a whole, I believe, is at fault. (Hear, hear.) There is not any freedom to the individual to get

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justice under the best of circumstances. The villager is forced by the process of the sham election to appeal to a tribunal called the panchayat. The essence of the old panchayat system was the regard the villager had for the man whom he chose, not merely by the raising of hands but by the continued regard that he used to pay under the developing circumstances of the village. The only approach to the old system of panchayats for judicial affairs, to my mind, seems to be a compulsory system of arbitration, but not a compulsory system of panchayats. The panchayat should be so modelled as to allow the greatest freedom to the litigants to choose their own judges. I am sure even in villages where there are parties there is a possibility of forming panchayats. One, two, or three villages may be grouped together sometimes and a panel of good and sound men may be formed in those villages and the villages who may have anything to be decided upon may be asked to choose their judges from amongst the panel. That would be a proper course to adopt with regard to the judicial system in the villages.

"The second point that I want to urge in regard to the administration of justice in this country is that justice must be made much cheaper and justice must be moted out more on the spot. I know that as a matter of fact, administration of justice is getting into contempt in this country because cases are tried at a distance from where they arise. The system of itinerant judges with local juries may possibly be a solution in cases where panchayats may be considered unable to act. Anyway I am not prepared to say that the scheme I have in mind is the best, but I have thrown out suggestions so that they may have some effect upon the future course of the administration of justice in this country. To my mind there are only two ideals that have to be kept in mind and they are: administration of justice must be made much simpler and cheaper, and must be brought nearer the home of the villagers. I do not desire to say anything more."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT:—"The question is that the allotment of Rs. 68,400 for pay of officers be reduced by Rs. 100."

The motion was put and negatived.

* Mr. K. MADHAVAN NAYAR:—"Sir, the motion that stands in my name is

'to reduce the allotment of Rs. 68,400 for pay of officers by Rs. 100'
(to discuss the action of the High Court in granting two days holidays to witness a cricket match.)"

* The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR:—"Mr. President, Sir, I desire to place before you a point of order. In regard to the holidays and working days of the High Court, the position is this. Under the Letters Patent of 1800 and clause 45 of the Letters Patent of 1865, the High Court has the sole power to determine the number of its holidays. And as I said, Sir, on this matter, in answer to a question which was put by my hon. Friend from Chingleput that in the present case it so happens that the High Court made up its mind to sit one or two days more to compensate for these holidays. But whatever it may be, I do not think it is in order for this House to discuss the question of the grant of holidays by an authority which is the sole functionary for the purpose of dealing with this matter. From other points of view also I would deprecate any discussion of such matters here."

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* Mr. S. SATYAMURTI :—" I do not see the point of order, Sir. In fact the hon. the Law Member has not stated the provision of the Government of India Act or the Legislative Council rule or the Standing Order which prohibits this House from discussing this motion. On the other hand, Sir, my hon. Friend the Law Member confined himself more to the discussion of the merits of the question—and I may say in passing that I agree with him therein—but so far as the point of order is concerned, because it is vested in the High Court to grant holidays or not, to argue that we have no power to reduce or omit the grant will make the whole of the discussion on this demand a farce. It is because I want to test this. . . . "

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" The thing is this. The object of a token motion is to hold a Government Member on the Treasury bench responsible, and the hon. the Law Member says that it is within the sole power, under the Letters Patent, of the High Court to grant holidays. But here I want to know how the hon. the Law Member is responsible for the granting of the holidays by the High Court."

* Mr. S. SATYAMURTI :—" I will give one illustration which will satisfy my lawyer friends either on this side of the House or on the other side. I shall give an extreme case because that is the way to test such positions. It is this, that for the next one month they do not sit. They declare that all the days till the end of April preceding the midsummer vacation are holidays. Is my hon. Friend going to argue that because under the Letters Patent they have got the power to grant holidays, this House has no power whatever to discuss that matter? I may put it this way. My hon. Friend the Law Member asks this House to vote for Rs. 84·38 lakhs for the Administration of Justice. We tell him ' You want money to pay certain servants who are paid by us.' In this case the salaries of the High Court Judges are not votable, but the salaries of their chobdars, clerks, shorthand clerks, steno-typists, etc., are votable. We say we refuse to give this money, unless you obtain from the High Court a satisfactory explanation as to why they granted these holidays. Therefore we are censuring the conduct of the hon. the Law Member in not using the influence he may have with this department, for after all the man who pays the piper has the right to call the tune.

4 p.m. " So long as the High Court Judges want Rs. 84·38 lakhs, and so long as my hon. Friend the Law Member makes himself responsible for moving the demand for Rs. 84·38 lakhs, I submit it is up to this House whatever the effect may be, to tell the hon. the Law Member that we are quite dissatisfied with the way in which the discretion vested in these High Court Judges in this matter has been exercised. We have no power to vote down, Sir, their salaries. We are going therefore to reduce the demand. That seems to be the only way in which we can express our dissatisfaction. Otherwise stretching this point, it comes to this. I may mention that practically the whole discretion is vested in the High Court. Take the district munsifs appointments. On the floor of this House with the generous consent of the hon. the Law Member and this House, this Council moved budget motions and discussed the question. We have passed communal orders. We have communicated the wishes of this House to the High Court. Let us take the question of the Registrar. No point of order

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was raised by my hon. Friend who said that he would communicate the matter to the authorities concerned. The procedure in respect of this demand is that, though the High Court is not subject to the jurisdiction of this House, the wishes of this House may be communicated to the High Court. That is my suggestion about procedure; and I do not think the House can be asked unless some more valid reasons are given that under a particular rule or standing order this should not be done, to give up its rights; the Law Member's point of view is, therefore, not valid. So far as the Government of India Act is concerned, this is a token motion and it is in order. What the effect of it will be is a different matter. The effect of the motion being passed will be that the hon. the Law Member will communicate to the hon. Judges of the High Court that in the opinion of this House the discretion exercised by them was not rightly exercised and I submit therefore that it is in order as the rules and standing orders stand at present."

* Diwan Bahadur M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—"On this point of order, I associate myself fully with my friend the hon. Member for the University. So long as the hon. the Law Member comes to this House and asks us to vote for a particular demand we have a right to say whether it will be voted or not. We have the privilege of discussing it to that extent and we shall be deprived of that right if the point of order is conceded. The hon. the Law Member said that it is entirely in the province of the High Court under the Letters Patent. Similarly there may be powers vested in the heads of other departments under the Government. Has this House no power to discuss a matter relating to such departments? I submit that that position will lead to all sorts of absurdities."

* The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR:—"I do not propose to go into the wider questions which have been referred to by my hon. Friend the Member for the University. In connection with the extreme case that he put I may say that it is not always the case that the extreme case tests the doctrine. The extreme case that he put was the refusal or the neglect of the High Court to function as such . . ."

Mr. S. SATYAMURTI:—"On a point of personal explanation, the declaring of the working days of April next as holidays for the High Court."

* The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR:—"By declaring that the whole of April shall be a holiday. That places us in a very different category of questions. At present what I am concerned with is this. Under section 106, this is a matter which furnishes the differentiating criterion. My hon. Friend for Malabar spoke of heads of departments under their power. They are not statutory. Under the Government of India Act the several High Courts are governed by Letters Patent and the Letters Patents are made by virtue of section 106 of the Government of India Act. Under them, they are given the power to give holidays and regulate their work. My submission to you is this, that so long as there is no fraud on the power given them by the statute, so long as there is nothing wrong and everything is within the ambit of their powers, to that extent they are acting within the statutory authority conferred on them. When I referred to the point of order I was only adverting to this circumstance. So long as the High Court acts bona fide within the powers conferred by the Letters Patent the responsibility of Government to this House does not follow. That is the point of order."

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Mr. SAMI VENKATACHALAM CHETTI :—“ May I know in this connection if the High Court Judges did not consult the Government before granting the holiday.”

*** The hon. the PRESIDENT :—**“ It was already answered. The only test that has to be applied in all cases of debate upon the budget cuts is whether the Member of the Government is officially connected with or is responsible for the department of administration to which the cuts relate. As to whether he is responsible for the granting of leave, I am of opinion that, under the Government of India Act and the Letters Patent, he cannot for a moment be held responsible. But so far as a demand has to be moved, and the monies voted by this House are to be passed on to the High Court, by the hon. the Law Member, perhaps it may be held that he is officially connected with this matter. In this sense the House may have a right to express its opinion upon the way in which the High Court is exercising the discretionary power vested in it under the Letters Patent. Therefore, I think this motion is in order.”

*** Mr. K. MADHAVAN NAYAR :—**“ Well, Sir, no one would have seriously taken notice of the conduct of the High Court in preferring pleasure to work for two days if this act stood by itself and if the High Court in its administration was quite beyond reproach. But the delay in the disposal of cases, the late arrival of judges, the large number of permanent judges, temporary judges, additional judges and what not judges (laughter), with all the paraphernalia and the heavy cost involved and so many other matters with which the High Court has become associated with in recent times all these have created such a deep and widespread dissatisfaction that the time for us has come to cry halt and give expression to our opinion about the conduct of the High Court Judges in granting these holidays. That there is great dissatisfaction is borne out also by the fact that in one of the speeches of one of the venerable members of the Madras bar, the President of the Vakils' Association, made a few weeks ago he seems to have said something of this kind : ‘ any one who walks along the corridors of the High Court must be aware of the fact that everybody seems to be dissatisfied with everything here but nobody seems to be bold enough to give expression to the same.’ Matters should have reached a climax indeed for a man occupying the position of Mr. T. R. Ramachandra Ayyar to burst out into such a denunciatory language, and that is why I have tabled this motion and not because I am uncharitable enough to deny two days holidays to the High Court Judges. Well, Sir, it may not be possible for me in this connexion to discuss the question of the pay of the High Court Judges for these two days. It is a matter of two days holidays for 14 judges, i.e., 28 days work for one Judge of the High Court not to speak of the heavy cost of the establishment during this time. It is stated that it was at the instance of the lawyers of Madras that these holidays were granted. I congratulate the lawyers who have suddenly developed a passion for cricket some of whom perhaps do not know if the ball is to be beaten with the bat or the bat is to be beaten with the ball. Whatever that may be we congratulate them, especially we the members of the mufassal bar who even in the matter of getting cases posted are not often accommodated by our district judges to suit our convenience to attend to Council work here. But it is a different matter altogether. I submit to you that I do not want to dilate on this unpleasant matter any further. I simply give expression

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to the dissatisfaction with the High Court under the present circumstances when the pendency is heavy, when there is so much delay in the disposal of cases and so much of arrears. Under the circumstances the granting of two days holidays is certainly not a matter which is commendable and which meets with the approbation of the public. That is all what I have to say on the matter."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—"The question is to reduce the allotment of Rs. 68,400 for pay of officers by Rs. 100."

* The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—"Sir, certain questions were asked of me in relation to this matter of the grant of two holidays to witness the cricket match. With reference to this question I was asked particularly by Mr. Muthuranga Mudaliyar, the hon. Member for Chingleput, whether Government were consulted by the High Court and the answer was 'No'. The High Court is empowered to grant two days leave and I added in answer to a supplemental question, as a matter of fact, I believe, the High Court proposes to sit for one or two extra days in order to make up for the holidays granted by them. (Hear, hear.) Now that being so, much of what had fallen from the hon. Member for Malabar is beside the point, if I may venture to make that observation, in as much as the grant of the salaries, the loss of money incurred by these holidays for the establishment disappears. Now, taking advantage, however, of this matter my hon. Friend made certain observations which with all possible respect I desire to enter a caveat against. Sir, he adverted to the remarks let fall by Mr. T. R. Ramachandra Ayyar, admittedly one of the leaders of the bar—I do not know whether he actually made the remarks which are attributed to him in the press. But if he did so, even then I would strongly urge on this House the inutility, the inexpediency and the danger of commenting in such sweeping manner upon the administration of justice by the highest court in the country. In that connexion may I bring to the notice of the hon. Members that a member according to our rules ought not to cast reflection upon the conduct of such persons as courts of justice.

"The object, the idea underlying the rule is this: that any sweeping observations, any general indictments made on courts of justice in the manner in which those indictments were made by the hon. Member for Malabar are calculated to undermine that confidence in the administration of justice, which it will be readily conceded is of the very foundation of settled and ordered Government. If there are any definite charges, if there are any definite shortcomings to which attention has to be drawn pointedly . . ."

4-15
P.M.

* Mr. K. MADHAVAN NAYAR :—"On a matter of personal explanation, Sir, I did not mean to say anything against the High Court Judges other than the delay in the administration of justice and I quoted Mr. T. R. Ramachandra Ayyar's speech in support of that position."

* The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—"Sir, I am very glad to have that statement, because in one of the hon. Member's remarks he said that, senior and junior, everybody is talking about something and that they dare not say what is in their minds. That bore a much more serious character than he thought. I am very glad to have the assurance."

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* **Mr. K. MADHAVAN NAYAR** :—"A personal explanation, Sir. I am not responsible for what Mr. T. R. Ramachandra Ayyar said. But I quoted him only to give strength to my complaint about delay, as I have already explained."

* **The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR** :—"I am glad to be assured by the hon. Member for Malabar that in his remarks he referred only to the delays in the High Court. On that matter I have nothing more to say, and he is perfectly entitled to make that observation and has the right as an hon. Member of this House. On this occasion, let me repeat, as I began by saying, that in the first place they are making arrangements to make up for those days, and, in the second place, it is not the desire of the High Court alone to witness the cricket match. It is not quite charitable for my hon. Friend the Member for Malabar to say that the lawyers who asked for a holiday did not know the separate functions of the bat and the ball. Even that venerable leader of the Bar was, I think, watching with anxiety and great amusement one portion of that particular match, especially in the latter part. So, it is hardly a matter which need be pressed in view to what I have already said about the arrangement proposed by the High Court."

* **Diwan Bahadur M. KRISHNAN NAYAR** :—"My hon. Friend the Law Member stated that reflections on the conduct of certain officers are to be deprecated, and he was referring to a rule. I may draw my hon. Friend's attention to the fact that this particular question arose in this Council in its first year. Then the conduct of the High Court on its administrative side was about to be discussed, and the then Law Member, the late Sir K. Srinivasa Ayyangar, raised this identical point of order and stated that . . ."

* **The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR** :—"May I make a matter of personal explanation? I guarded myself against saying that in administrative matters the High Court is removed from the criticism of this House. I was only referring to the possible inferences from the remarks made by the hon. Member for Malabar."

* **Diwan Bahadur M. KRISHNAN NAYAR** :—"Then, there is no point in my hon. Friend's reference to the rule. This is a matter connected only with the administrative side, and my hon. Friend himself now concedes . . ."

* **The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR** :—"It is not a question of now conceding. I raised that point in view to a possible interpretation of one of the sentences of my hon. Friend's speech in regard to the conduct of the High Court Judges."

* **Diwan Bahadur M. KRISHNAN NAYAR** :—"Sir, I think it is thoroughly unnecessary to reply to these irrelevant interruptions. But now to proceed . . ."

* **The hon. the PRESIDENT** :—"The better course for the hon. Member is not to yield."

* **Diwan Bahadur M. KRISHNAN NAYAR** :—"Yes, Sir, I was wrong in having yielded. (Laughter.) I will take your advice hereafter, and I take it that my hon. Friend also will profit by your advice. My hon. Friend the Law Member says that after all there is no harm because the High Court has resolved to substitute two other days which would otherwise be holidays in the place of those working days which were made holidays for the purpose

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of the High Court Judges and others witnessing the cricket match. Did the High Court and does my hon. Friend take into consideration the feelings, the expense and the inconvenience of the clients that come up to the High Court in connexion with their cases? So many cases must have been posted for these two days before all these six or seven benches—the number of Judges is so large that it is not possible for any person to remember it. The number of clients who have come from different parts of the Presidency to the High Court in connexion with their cases, must have been very large and the amount of money that they spent in their tours to this city must have also been very large, and they must have unnecessarily been put to much inconvenience on account of the grant of the holidays. Are these persons going to be taken into account at all? Does my hon. Friend not regard their inconvenience, their expenditure? Does he not take these into consideration, which the High Court has not considered?

“Then, as my hon. Friend Mr. Madhavan Nayar said, there is so much of discontent in the public regarding the disposal of cases in the High Court. I think the High Court acted erroneously in adjourning cases and causing great inconvenience to the parties.”

BASHEER AHMAD SAYEED SAHIB Bahadur :—“I wish to place a few facts before this House while this motion is under discussion. The holidays were granted at the desire of a section of the Bar, and the High Court Judges will sit for two more days for this session for making up the two holidays granted. And in view of the fact that the vakils have desired these two holidays, the inconvenience, which my hon. Friend Mr. Krishnan Nayar said the clients were put to, was really caused by the members of the Bar. Of course, my hon. Friend does not know how cases go on in the High Court. The clients have to come and wait for days and weeks together, and a stay of two or three days more is not really a thing to be considered very seriously—and that in so far as these two holidays are concerned, the High Court is certainly going to sit for two more days than usual. I think this motion is thoroughly unnecessary to be discussed any further.”

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—“Is the hon. Member withdrawing the motion?”

Mr. K. MADHAVAN NAYAR :—“Yes, Sir.”

The motion was by leave withdrawn.

* Mr. SAMI VENKATACHALAM CHETTI :—“Sir, I propose to move—

‘for a cut of Rs. 100 from the allotment of Rs. 68,400 for pay of officers.’

“In doing so, I desire to draw the attention of the Government to the retention of temporary Judges. For the last five or six years, it has become the practice to keep one or two High Court Judges temporarily. I believe once at least the Council refused to sanction these appointments by rejecting the demand for this grant, which was certified and restored by His Excellency the Governor. For various reasons, the retention of temporary Judges ought to be put an end to. In the first place, that will not conduce to the disposal of arrears. After all, however honourable the High Court Judges may be, it is just possible that there could be no inducement for the speedy disposal of arrears so long as they are put on temporary rations. Last year, Sir, the

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hon. the Law Member said that the matter was referred to the High Court and that the hon. the Judges of the High Court were of opinion that the additional Judges were necessary. I believe it ought to be a very delicate matter for the hon. the Judges of the High Court to say that two of their colleagues are unnecessary. It is better not to refer the matter to the Judges of the High Court at all, but to refer it to a representative body, more largely representative of clients than of vakils, and examine the question of accumulation of arrears. Then, whether such an accumulation of arrears is due for want of more Judges, or for want of speedy disposal of cases by the permanent Judges can be known.

"There is another reason, Sir, why Judges ought not to be kept up for temporary periods. That will be giving a power in the hands of the Executive, and the hon. the Judges will naturally be looking up to the Executive Government for their extension. That is why the appointment of the Judges of the High Court is beyond the power of the local Legislative Council, and even their removal may not be made unless both the Houses of Parliament move in the form of an address to His Majesty for such a removal. They have to be kept up on a very much higher level than to be always under the leading strings of the hon. the Law Member, either to continue them or to put a stop to their temporary period. The opinion that is prevalent among the litigant public is that the additional Judges are not necessary for the cases under disposal and that if only the hon. the Judges of the High Court make up their minds for the speedy disposal of cases the accumulation of arrears will not take place, and perhaps there will be no necessity for keeping on these temporary Judges so long. I do not think it will be possible either for the hon. the Law Member to decide the question, or for the hon. the Judges of the High Court to decide it. It ought to be investigated by a representative committee, and their suggestions should be carried out.

"With these remarks, I move this motion for the acceptance of the House."

* The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—"Mr. President, Sir, this question has had a long and somewhat chequered history. In regard to the statistics themselves, I think there is in the hands of every hon. Member of this House a paper which was directed to be placed on the table of this House, which contains the full statistics of work. It will be noticed from these statistics that to a large extent or indeed mainly it may be asserted without fear of contradiction that there has been no shortcoming on the part of the Judges in the matter of speedy disposal. As years went on and as additional Judges were brought into being they have done a great deal more work than was merely discernible from the increase in number. Let me, for instance, refer to a few figures. The institutions have been increasing up to a certain point and have just now begun to decrease. In regard to the disposals we have these figures. Let us take the first appeals. Disposals in 1923-24, 229; in 1924-25, 396; in 1925-26, 360; in 1926-27, 384. It cannot surely be said that these figures do not justify the case put forward by the High Court. It cannot be asserted with any justification that these Judges have not been trying their very best to reduce the arrears and the increase in disposal is in much greater proportion than the increase in the Judges from 12 to 14. The same result may be predicted of the other

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classes of work like the original civil suits, the original criminal suits and so forth. All these figures are placed before the House, and I do not wish to weary the House by taking them through these figures again.

“The two posts of temporary Judges were first created from the 20th October 1924. For facility of comparison the statistics have been given for each year and they show declining institutions in civil suits on the Appellate Side, in many of the most important particulars while on the other hand there is a marked increase in institutions of Letters Patent appeals, while institutions under other heads are stationary. When there were 12 Judges the first appeals that were disposed of were 242 as against 395 when 14; similarly, Original Suit appeals 88 against 130, City Civil Court appeals 52 against 60, Letters Patent appeals 49 against 188 and second appeals 1,184 as against 1,655.

“There has been a marked increase in disposal and special efforts have been made by the hon. Judges. With the present strength of 14 Judges, it is found possible to constitute two benches of two Judges each for first appeal and two benches for second appeal, with occasionally another bench for other class of work. If the strength be reduced to 12, only a single bench can be provided for first appeals.”

MR. S. SATYAMURTI :—“May I ask my hon. Friend what is the document from which he reads?”

* The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—“My own notes.”

MR. S. SATYAMURTI :—“You generally do not make any notes and that is why I asked.”

* The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—“The point is I do not carry all these figures in my memory.

“Therefore my point is that the figures before the House demonstrate clearly that the 14 Judges are entirely and wholly necessary for the purpose of keeping abreast with the work and of reducing arrears. The result is due to the fact that not only the arrears have largely accumulated but also due to the circumstance that the pendency has more than kept pace with the arrears and also that the new institutions have more than kept pace with the arrears.

“One other aspect of the matter was mentioned by the hon. Member from Madras, that is, the question of permanency of the temporary Judges.

(At this stage the Deputy President took the chair.)

“On that matter, if I may say so I agree with him. I agree that the Judges of the highest court in the country should not be dependent for their appointment or tenure of office—I say it with all respect—either to this Council or to those on the executive side of Government. In England, as is well known,—and I find that my hon. Friend from South Kanara who deprecates comparison with England is not here and I am a little more emboldened in my speech thereby—in England when arrears of this kind accumulate, the process that is undertaken is somewhat of this kind, namely, that they increase the total strength by two or three by an address to both Houses of Parliament, and then if the arrears decline they do not fill up the vacancies when the next vacancies occur. Some such system, if this hon.

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House is in favour of it, can be very carefully considered and deliberated upon by Government and formulated as a policy, namely, that if the arrears are really unmanageable, if they require an addition to the strength, increase the permanent strength of the court, but on the occurrence of the next vacancy, if these men have made good and reduced the arrears, do not fill up the vacancy. This method which has been adopted in other countries has a great deal to commend it and if the House is in favour, the Government will pay very careful heed to that suggestion.

“Then, Madam, certain observations emanated from hon. Members as to the possibility of a committee. If the hon. Members of this House make up their minds in regard to the question as to the manner in which these arrears should be dealt with, namely, by the creation of temporary judges, then the question as to the extent to which it may be done might well be considered by a committee which the Members of this House might constitute. That is a matter which will be borne in mind and Government will pay consideration to that aspect.”

* Mr. S. SATYAMURTI.—“Deputy President, Madam, my hon. Friend the Law Member has first sought to turn the edge of the motion by giving some figures and trying to prove that there is work always for fourteen judges and, secondly by an academical assurance, that if and when the time comes, and only when that time comes, they may appoint a committee who may recommend as to when you may have a permanent increase in the strength and then you may appoint judges, or not. The appointment of temporary judges is not to cease till then. The whole speech is delightfully vague. He has given no undertaking whatever that we will have this question examined. He has only given us some figures.”

* The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—“My powers of speech are feeble I realize.”

* Mr. S. SATYAMURTI :—“My powers of hearing may be feebler. Anyhow I am satisfied there is absolutely no undertaking whatever on the part of the Government that before they appoint these temporary judges they will have this question of a permanent addition to the strength of the High Court examined and reported completely. So far as these figures are concerned, they have been submitted, Madam, for the purpose of making out a case against this cut. These are not figures sent up by the High Court in the normal course of things, but they have been prepared by expert judges and sent to my hon. Friend the Law Member to make out a case against this token cut. Therefore these judges have excelled themselves in trying to prove that the number of pending cases would provide work for the whole bench of judges for nearly two years, and all the pending cases, ready and unready (I do not know if this is correct English), would employ all the judges for at least three years. Now, Madam, if that statement is accepted by my hon. Friend the Law Member, is that not material enough for him to proceed straightaway and have the question examined and placed before the House, before the authorities more directly concerned—the Government of India, the Secretary of State and His Majesty the King through the Secretary of State? High Court have given that statement. Does the hon. the Law Member accept that statement or not? If he does, I ask that no further committee is wanted unless he wants to gain time and wants to leave it to his successor, saying ‘After me, the deluge’. So far as these figures are

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concerned, they themselves say that in spite of the increasing disposals the pendency has increased throughout except on the original side. I am free to admit that institutions have increased and to that extent they may be responsible for the increase in pendency. Even making allowances for that, Madam—I know my hon. Friend reminded the House a few minutes ago that we ought not to make any remarks calculated to lower or affect the confidence of the public in the administration of justice, that is a most important caution but those who are sought to be protected by that caution ought not to take undue advantage of that caution, I want to say nothing derogatory—it seems to me that the way in which some of the judges take holidays coming at odd hours and going away at odd hours, sometimes even without notice to the waiting Bar is a matter to be enquired into by the hon. the Law Member and the Government, and I do think that the taxpayers are entitled to have five hours' work every day out of these highly paid judges. My hon. Friend the Law Member knows that this kind of thing cannot go on for eternity. How are you going to keep this High Court as a glass house, though they have constantly exposed themselves to attack? I want to tell my hon. Friend the Law Member that quantitative increase is not equivalent to qualitative increase. There is no use appointing men on the High Court bench who do not dispose of cases with that rapidity with which the judges of the High Court in Madras and in other courts usually dispose of them. The tragedy is this. In other provinces, judgeships are offered to people with great trepidation on the part of the Government as to whether they would accept them or not, they being leaders of the bar, making Rs. 10,000 or 15,000 a month. Here the entire position is reversed. Recommendation letters, interviews, communal claims and what not, are pressed on the Law Member—on the then Ministry they were pressed, and I hope the present Ministry will not follow that example—and more than that, the Government are, in some cases, actually compelled to consider these claims. I ask my hon. Friend, who is a distinguished lawyer, whether it is good for the High Court bench, for the lawyers and, above all, for the litigants, that those who are to occupy the highest place in the administration of justice should hang about the corridors of the Law Member's room or Private Secretary's or Chief Secretary's room. It seems to me that the idea of keeping temporary judges five or six years is certainly bad and it must be stopped. It poisons the very fountains of justice. There is no use in saying you must not attack them; they are above attack. The retention of the temporary judge, I say, is poisoning the springs of justice in this province. It must be stopped. If my hon. Friend wants fifteen judges, let him say so. This is a matter which has to be examined very much more seriously than the Law Member takes it. He cannot put off the House indefinitely saying that he will examine the matter. This motion is to be pressed to a division, and I hope it will be carried, and the House will have an opportunity of telling the Law Member that they are not going to put up with the retention of the temporary judges any longer."

MR. T. C. SRINIVASA AYYANGAR :—"Madam, I should like also to add my voice to what has already been stated in the House about the necessity for replacing these temporary judges by permanent judges. Every one has got a great respect for the Highest Court of Justice and every one feels that that high office of the Judge of the High Court should be placed beyond communal squabbles. The system of temporary judges is altogether bad. Whether the

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arrears should be disposed of to-morrow, or in a short time or in a long time, the idea of putting temporary judges on the High Court bench is bad in principle. Whenever the arrears demand addition of judges, there ought to be a permanent addition and the recruitment thereto ought not to be based upon any other than the claim of fitness for the office. The leaders of the bar have a sufficient sense of justice that if they are offered a place on the bench they would not decline it. If such a state of things is brought about, it will be so much for the prestige of the High Court as well as for the sense of respect we all entertain towards it.

"The wording of the motion is sufficiently wide to enable us to put in a word about the present system underlying the composition of the High Court and the proportion between civilian, vakil and barrister judges. The present principle is rather a vexatious one. It is time that it is scrapped. It is to the bar that we should look for the purpose of finding out capable judges to take up the work. Therefore, Madam, the House must in no uncertain terms express its determination to see that our Highest Court consists of only permanent judges. The very idea of a temporary judge is repugnant. The temporary judges, after acting as judges, revert to the bar and that will be creating an invidious distinction between lawyers although they themselves may not take advantage of it. Once a judge, always a judge. That must be the rule. In England that is the case. Why not we follow it here? All these things deserve immediate attention and the feelings of the lawyers also must be given due consideration."

* The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR : — "Madam, I have listened with considerable interest to the suggestions that have fallen from both quarters of the House. One of the points made by the hon. and learned Member from Madura was with reference to the question of proportion contained in the Government of India Act. He doubtless realizes that it is a statutory provision and the Houses of Parliament are the only authorities who can modify that provision. He will also realize that the question of recruiting the judiciary for the highest court in the country from all classes, from all the best categories of persons, whether they be lawyers or Indian Civil Service officers and in this connexion, let me point out that some very great judges have been Indian Civil Service lawyers, whether barristers or vakils is now actually engaging the attention of the Government of India and Parliament.

"There were two or three points made by the hon. and learned Member for the University. I am afraid in his pursuit of the abstract doctrine, with which as I have said in my opening remarks I have a great deal of sympathy, he has been oblivious to the fact that so far as Madras is concerned, I think it can be said without fear of contradiction that the additional judges that have been appointed beginning with Mr. T. V. Seshagiri Ayyar down to the occupants of the bench just now have not justified in any manner those apprehensions which from merely theoretic or academic considerations may be held in some quarters to be justified. But personal considerations apart, there can be no two opinions on this matter that, recruitment to the highest judiciary in the country must be from the most capable and the most respected members of the various professions and the services, and, to that the Government will endeavour to their utmost degree to assent. I have nothing more to say. I have already stated that I take it that this is a token motion intended for the purpose of indicating to the Government the opinion of the House that

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any continuance or extension of the tenure of these temporary judges must be preceded by an exhaustive enquiry and an elucidation of the necessity for such continuance and that the House would favour permanency of tenure rather than the temporary character of it under any circumstance."

The hon. the DEPUTY PRESIDENT :—"Is the House ready for the question? (After a pause.) 'The question is to reduce the allotment of Rs. 68,400 for pay of officers by Rs. 100.'"

The motion was put and declared lost.

Mr. Satyamurti demanded a poll and the House divided thus :—

Ayes.

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1. Khan Bahadur Abbas Ali. | 26. Mr. D. Narayana Raju. |
| 2. Mr. C. D. Appavu Chettiyar. | 27. Mr. M. Narayana Rao. |
| 3. " Balakrishna Shetti. | 28. Dr. B. S. Mallayya. |
| 4. " T. M. Narayanaswami Pillai. | 29. Mr. C. Marudavanam Pillai. |
| 5. " C. R. Parthasarathi Ayyangar. | 30. " J. A. Saldanha. |
| 6. " Ramanath Goenka. | 31. " C. Obi Reddi. |
| 7. " W. P. A. Soundarapandiya Nadar. | 32. " A. Parasarama Rao. |
| 8. " T. C. Srinivasa Ayyangar. | 33. Basheer Ahmad Sayeed Sahib Bahadur. |
| 9. " Chavadi K. Subrahmanya Pillai. | 34. Mr. P. Bhaktavatsulu Nayudu. |
| 10. " D. Thomas. | 35. Sriman Biswanath Das Mahasayo. |
| 11. " S. V. Vanavudia Gounder. | 36. Mr. R. Srinivasa Ayyangar. |
| 12. " S. Venkayya. | 37. " K. S. Sivasubrahmanya Ayyar. |
| 13. " K. R. Venkatarama Ayyar. | 38. " L. K. Tulasiram. |
| 14. " M. R. Seturatnam Ayyar. | 39. " K. R. Karant. |
| 15. The Zamindar of Gollapalli. | 40. " K. V. Krishnaswami Nayakar. |
| 16. Mr. Sami Venkatachalam Chetti. | 41. " K. Madhavan Nayar. |
| 17. " S. Satyamurti. | 42. Rao Bahadur C. S. Ratnasabapati |
| 18. " S. Muttayya Mudaliyar. | Mudaliyar. |
| 19. " P. C. Venkatapati Raju. | 43. Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. Patro. |
| 20. " C. S. Govindaraja Mudaliyar. | 44. Diwan Bahadur M. Krishnan Nayar. |
| 21. " G. Harisarvottama Rao. | 45. Mr. P. T. Rajan. |
| 22. " C. N. Muthuranga Mudaliyar. | 46. Diwan Bahadur P. C. Ethirajulu Nayudu. |
| 23. " Abdul Hamid Khan. | 47. Rao Bahadur B. Muniswami Nayudu. |
| 24. " K. V. R. Swami. | 48. " K. Sitaratna Reddi. |
| 25. K. P. V. S. Muhammad Meera Ravuttar | 49. Mr. M. A. Manikkavelu Nayakar. |
| Bahadur. | 50. Zamindar of Mirzapuram. |

Noes.

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1. The hon. Sir C. P. Ramaswami Ayyar. | 16. Khan Bahadur Muhammad Bazl-ul-lah |
| 2. " Mr. N. E. Marjoribanks. | Sahib Bahadur. |
| 3. " Khan Bahadur Muhammad | 17. Mr. J. Bheenayya. |
| Usman Sahib Bahadur. | 18. " Muppil Nayar of Kavalappara. |
| 4. " Mr. T. E. Moir. | 19. Subadar-Major S. A. Nanjappah Baha- |
| 5. " Diwan Bahadur R. N. Arogya- | dur. |
| swami Mudaliyar | 20. Mr. N. Siva Raj. |
| 6. " Mr. A. Ranganatha Mudaliyar. | 21. " M. V. Gangadara Siva. |
| 7. " Dr. P. Subbarayan. | 22. " S. Subrahmanya Moopanar. |
| 8. Mr. T. R. Venkatarama Sastriyar. | 23. Rao Sahib P. V. S. Sundaramurti Pillai. |
| 9. " J. F. Hall. | 24. Mr. K. Krishnan. |
| 10. " P. L. Moore. | 25. " G. R. Premayya. |
| 11. " Gnanavarnam Pillai. | 26. Swami Sahajananda. |
| 12. " G. T. Boag. | 27. Rao Sahib R. Srinivasan. |
| 13. " V. Pandrang Row. | 28. Sir Alexander MacDougall. |
| 14. " S. H. Slater. | 29. Rao Sahib L. C. Guruswami. |
| 15. " C. B. Cotterell. | 30. Mr. V. I. Muniswami Pillai. |

Ayes 50. *Noes* 30.

The motion was carried.

The House adjourned at 2 minutes to 5 p.m. to meet again at 11 a.m. the next day.

R. V. KRISHNA AYYAR,
Secretary to the Legislative Council.

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APPENDIX I

[Vide answer to question No. 423 asked by Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. Patro at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on the 21st March 1927, page 516 supra.]

Districts.	Boys in public elementary schools.			Girls in public elementary schools.		
	On the 31st March 1923.	On the 31st March 1926.	Increase.	On the 31st March 1923.	On the 31st March 1926.	Increase.
Ganjam	60,473	66,031	5,558	9,082	10,804	1,722
Vizagapatam	60,265	80,715	20,450	13,238	15,767	2,529
Godavari, East	52,167	69,988	17,821	20,304	28,827	8,523
Godavari, West	..	44,056	..	..	22,507	..
Kistna	79,859	52,125	16,822	(37,879) {	24,213	8,841
Guntur	68,134	87,389	13,855	26,810	32,915	6,105
Kurnool	41,784	43,968	2,184	9,698	9,919	221
Bellary	28,249	33,356	5,107	6,125	6,158	33
Anantapur	28,021	35,282	7,261	6,423	7,642	1,219
Cuddapah	32,627	39,892	7,265	5,670	7,129	1,459
Nellore	36,710	40,520	3,810	12,641	13,236	595
Madras	24,969	29,041	4,072	12,644	16,039	3,395
Chingleput	48,949	59,833	10,884	11,774	15,396	3,622
North Arcot	57,214	68,450	11,236	13,287	17,602	2,315
Chittoor	32,104	43,786	11,682	7,731	9,408	1,677
South Arcot	67,176	88,179	21,003	13,211	16,698	3,487
Tanjore	70,443	86,233	15,790	18,661	22,657	3,996
Trichinopoly	45,387	58,494	13,107	9,635	11,603	1,968
Madura	54,555	66,373	11,818	11,321	14,477	3,156
Ramnad	46,703	61,486	14,783	9,796	12,240	2,444
Tinnevely	67,621	78,213	10,592	20,952	23,937	2,985
Coimbatore	45,850	59,512	13,662	10,834	14,444	3,610
Salem	40,688	47,592	7,004	9,076	10,401	1,325
The Nilgiris	6,395	6,437	1,042	1,687	1,829	242
Malabar	118,423	1,68,614	50,191	51,416	76,713	25,297
South Kanara	40,283	52,484	12,201	12,445	18,517	6,072
Godavari (East)	..	8,939	..	..	1,453	..
Agency.	22,389	..	1,669	3,200	1,047	— 148
Vizagapatam Agency. ..	..	9,577	..	..	552	..
Ganjam Agency	..	10,542	..	..	..	..
Total	1,276,738	1,787,117	310,379	365,440	462,130	96,690

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APPENDIX II

[Vide answer to question No. 429 asked by Mr. G. Harisarvottama Rao at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on the 21st March 1927, page 519 supra.]

Statement showing the area within one mile of villages which have been disforested since the issue of G.O. No. 1933, Development, dated 14th October 1921.

Name of reserve.				Area in acres.
				ACS.
Kurnool East	...	Markapur portion	...	17
Kurnool West	...	Nandyal	...	3.80
		Veldurthi	...	33.00
		Loddipally	...	1,176.00
		Gani reserve	...	588.00
		Panyam (enclosure)	...	1.25
		Dudyala reserve	...	4,026.00
		Gani	...	154.00
				5,982.05
Kurnool South	...	Peapalli Extension I	...	176.00
		Peddapaya	...	28.00
		Tekulakonda	Extension II.	240.00
		Devagudipad	...	20.00
		Jaladurgam	...	1,256.00
		Devagudipad	...	4.72
		Giddalore—		
		Block I	...	180.00
		Block II	...	60.00
		South Veligonda	Extension I	...
			...	2,052.00
		North Veligonda	...	1,640.00
				5,656.72
Total extent				11,655.77 or
				11,656 acres or 18.23 sq. miles.

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APPENDIX III

[Vide item III "Communications to the Council" at page 526 supra.]

**PROCEEDINGS OF THE TENTH MEETING OF THE FINANCE
COMMITTEE FOR 1926-27 HELD ON MONDAY THE 14TH
MARCH 1927 AT 5 P.M. AT THE CABINET CHAMBER,
FORT ST. GEORGE.**

P R E S E N T :

The Hon. Mr. T. E. MOIR, C.S.I., C.I.E., I.C.S. (Chairman).
 Sir ALEXANDER MACDOUGALL, M.L.C.
 M.R.Ry. P. C. VENKATAPATI RAJU Garu, M.L.C.
 " K. KOTI REDDI Garu, M.L.C.
 " K. R. VENKATARAMA AYYAR Avargal, M.L.C.
 K. P. V. S. MUHAMMAD MEERA RAVUTTAR Bahadur, M.L.C.
 G. T. BOAG, Esq., I.C.S., M.L.C.

**I. SCHEME FOR INTRODUCTION IN THE CURRENT YEAR
BY REAPPROPRIATION.**

**Additional teaching grants to certain District
Educational Councils.**

Abstract of the proposal.—The allotments sanctioned by Government during the years 1923-24 to 1926-27 for payment of teaching grants to aided elementary schools have fallen short of the demands of District Educational Councils as shown below :—

Year.	Total demand. RS.	Total allotment. RS.
1923-24	29,50,636	28,00,000
1924-25	32,36,902	29,75,000
1925-26	38,59,098	34,65,880
1926-27	44,50,227	37,92,148 *

(* Excludes Rs. 35,952 for payment of teaching grants to schools to be newly opened in 1926-27.)

New schools under private management are being opened year after year and the rates of teaching grants were raised in 1925-26 at an extra cost of 4.30 lakhs. Owing to the insufficiency of the budget grants in the last three years, the full demand could not be met and a *pro rata* reduction had to be made. Applications for additional allotments to the extent of Rs. 2,36,591 have been received in the current year from seven District Educational Councils. The Director of Public Instruction expects a saving of Rs. 1,94,500 in the Educational budget and it is proposed to distribute this amount *pro rata* among the seven District Educational Councils. An increased provision of Rs. 8.79 lakhs has been allotted in the budget for 1927-28.

Recommendation of the Committee.—The proposal was recommended for acceptance, the distribution to be made *pro rata* according to requirements.

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II. SUPPLEMENTARY DEMANDS.

(1) Additional appropriation under "Grant IV—Forest" to meet the pay of the additional staff for the Forest Panchayat Officer and increased expenditure on travelling allowance.

Abstract of the proposal.—The sanctioned appropriation for the current year for the Forest Panchayat Officer including allowances and contingencies is Rs. 53,200. The expenditure is now estimated at Rs. 57,400, an increase of Rs. 4,200. This increase occurs under the following heads:—

Rs.		
Pay of establishments	.. 1,100	Due mainly to the additional establishment of one Upper division clerk and one stenotypist sanctioned in the course of the year.
Travelling allowance	.. 2,600	Based on the latest actuals.
Contingencies	.. 500	
4,200		

A sum of Rs. 300 can be met by reappropriation from the provision under "Pay of officers". A supplementary demand for the balance, viz., Rs. 3,900 will be moved in the Legislative Council.

Recommendation of the Committee.—The proposal to move a demand for a supplementary grant of Rs. 3,900 was recommended by the Committee.

(2) Additional appropriation under 'Grant XXXIII—Stationery and Printing—Transferred' to meet anticipated expenditure in excess of the grant.

Abstract of the proposal.—The original budget estimate for 1926-27 on account of the cost of stationery supplied to Transferred departments was fixed at Rs. 2,45,000, based on the estimated expenditure for 1925-26. The actuals for 1925-26 have exceeded the estimated expenditure. Besides, there has been a change in the programme of indent and supply of stationery articles to the Public Works Department according to which an extra six months' supply has to be met in the current year. These factors have resulted in an extra liability of Rs. 75,000 under the head. A demand for a supplementary grant for Rs. 75,000 will be moved in the Legislative Council. There will be a corresponding reduction in the reserved expenditure on the purchase of stationery.

Recommendation of the Committee.—The proposal to move a demand for a supplementary grant of Rs. 75,000 was recommended by the Committee.

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III. SCHEMES FOR INTRODUCTION NEXT YEAR.

(1) Employment of two additional Clerks in the King George's Hospital, Vizagapatam.

Abstract of the proposal.—The clerical staff of the King George's Hospital, Vizagapatam, consists of one clerk and one steward on Rs. 35–60 each. The hospital has at present accommodation for 230 in-patients and the existing staff find it difficult to cope satisfactorily with all the work involved. A new maternity block of 40 beds will be opened at the beginning of the next year and a new Ophthalmic block of 80 beds will be ready in 1928–29. These additions will increase the clerical work of the hospital, and the Surgeon-General accordingly recommended the employment of an additional steward and a typist as being essential to the efficient management of the clerical work of the hospital. It is proposed to sanction their employment with effect from the 1st April 1927, the expenditure involved being met from the provision made under “32. Medical” in the budget for 1927–28.

Recommendation of the Committee.—The proposal was recommended for acceptance.

(2) Formation of an Armed Reserve in the West Godavari district.

Abstract of the proposal.—Pending the reorganization of the Armed Reserves in the Presidency, no reserve was formed for the West Godavari district at the time of the bifurcation of the Kistna district in 1925. Temporary emergencies requiring the intervention of the Armed Reserve are in the meantime being met in the district by the Reserve of the Kistna district. The reorganization of the Reserves has now been completed. The Inspector-General has submitted proposals for the constitution of a separate reserve for the West Godavari district which involves an increase of staff by 1 inspector, 2 sergeants, 1 havildar major, 4 head constables and 28 constables. The ultimate cost of the proposal is Rs. 15,872 per annum recurring and Rs. 474 non-recurring, being the cost of pistols for the Inspector and Sergeants. The staff will be employed only after the completion of the buildings for the Armed Reserve at Ellore. Provision for the building programme has been included in the budget for 1927–28. If the buildings are ready before the end of the next official year, the additional expenditure on account of the staff will be met by moving a demand for a supplementary grant in the Legislative Council in 1927–28.

Recommendation of the Committee.—The proposal was recommended for acceptance.

IV. FURTHER DEMANDS FOR 1927–28.

(1) Experiments on water filtration at the Kilpauk Water Works.

Abstract of the proposal.—In 1912 a plant was erected at the King Institute, Guindy, at a cost of Rs. 36,124 for the purpose of carrying out experiments on the purification of water for public water supplies. The

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water with which the experiments were made was drawn from the Adyar river. Since 1913 the plant has been practically in constant use and from the many experiments conducted much valuable information has been collected in regard to the operation, control and results of the various systems of rapid and slow filtration of water. The value of the work carried on at Guindy is, however, limited by the fact that all the experiments have been conducted with one water only, that of the Adyar river. The committee on water filtration has accordingly recommended that the most important experiments should be repeated on another water. Kilpauk water works have been chosen as they are centrally situated and as the Kilpauk water is a typical water of the storage tank system of public water supply sources which are common in this Presidency. The installation of the plant at Kilpauk is expected to cost Rs. 25,000. The experiments at Guindy will be suspended, and all the suitable materials available at Guindy will be transferred to Kilpauk. The annual maintenance charges are estimated at Rs. 8,340. The establishment consisting of one Health Inspector, an oiler and cleaner, three lascars, a mechanic and filter operator and a turn cock will cost Rs. 2,580 and apparatus and materials Rs. 5,760. This amount will be met from the provision entered in the budget for 1927-28 for experimental filtration at Guindy. A demand for a further grant of Rs. 25,000 on account of the installation of the plant will be moved on the 28th March 1927.

Extra cost.

	Ultimate.	Cost in 1927-28.
	RS.	RS.
Recurring	2,580	Nil. (Will be met from existing bud- get provi- sion.)
Non-recurring	5,760	25,000

Recommendation of the Committee.—The Committee recommended the moving of a demand for a further grant of Rs. 25,000.

(2) Acquisition of a site for the Veterinary Hospital, Negapatam.

Abstract of the proposal.—The current year's budget includes a provision of Rs. 7,800 for the acquisition of a site for the location of the Veterinary Hospital at Negapatam. This has been increased by an additional appropriation of Rs. 135. The Veterinary Adviser has now reported that it will not be possible to complete the acquisition in the current year. It is accordingly proposed to move a demand for a further grant of Rs. 7,900 for the purpose on the 28th March 1927.

Recommendation of the Committee.—The proposal to move a demand for a further grant of Rs. 7,900 was recommended by the Committee.

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(3) Terracing Blocks 1 to 3 and 5 and 6 in the District Jail, Berhampur.

Abstract of the proposal.—The Executive Engineer has reported that the roofs of the present blocks 1 to 3 and 5 and 6 of the District Jail, Berhampur, are not strong enough to stand for another year without immediate repairs. He further suggests that instead of spending money on repairs it would be more economical to terrace the blocks. For this purpose a sum of Rs. 17,500 is required and it is proposed to move a demand for a further grant of this amount on the 28th March 1927.

Recommendation of the Committee.—The proposal to move a demand for a further grant of Rs. 17,500 was recommended by the Committee.

(4) Acquisition of land for the Samalkota Experimental Station.

Abstract of the proposal.—An area of 16 acres 42 cents attached to the Samalkota Farm is held by Government under a lease for twelve years. The lease expires in May 1927 and the owner demands a rent of Rs. 150 per acre for cane and Rs. 125 per acre for paddy against the present rate of Rs. 36 per acre. It is considered that the lease should not be renewed at these high rates, but that the land should be acquired immediately and taken possession of before the current lease expires. The cost of acquisition is estimated at Rs. 29,000 and it is proposed to move a demand for a further grant of this amount on the 28th March 1927.

Recommendation of the Committee.—The proposal to move a demand for a further grant of Rs. 29,000 was recommended by the Committee.

(5) Employment of an additional District Board Engineer.

Abstract of the proposal.—There are at present 24 District Board Engineers for the 24 Local Fund districts. An additional Local Fund district is to be formed from the 15th April 1927 consequent on the division of the present Kistna district into two. An additional District Board Engineer is therefore required from that date. To meet the cost on this account, in 1927-28, viz., Rs. 4,200, it is proposed to move a demand for a further grant of that amount on the 28th March 1927.

Recommendation of the Committee.—The proposal to move a demand for a further grant of Rs. 4,200 was recommended by the Committee.

V. PAPERS PLACED ON THE TABLE.

(1) Additional Prosecuting Sub-Inspector for the Tanjore district.

Abstract of the proposal.—Prior to November 1925, the prosecuting staff in the Tanjore district consisted of one Inspector and five sub-inspectors. The strength was reduced by two sub-inspectors under the reallocation scheme sanctioned in November 1925. This reduction has resulted in inconvenience to the Magistrates, the public and the prosecuting officers. The district is highly litigious and cases are contested; it is therefore necessary to

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have qualified prosecutors for the conduct of cases of even ordinary importance. The Government have accordingly sanctioned the temporary addition of one Sub-Inspector to the present prosecuting staff of the district to the end of March 1928.

(2) Loan to the Port Conservancy Board, Cochin, in 1926-27.

Abstract of the proposal.—The Government have till now advanced a total loan of Rs. 20 lakhs (15·50 lakhs in 1925-26 and 4·50 lakhs in 1926-27) to the Cochin Landing and Shipping Fund for harbour works. The expenditure in the current year is estimated at 16·53 lakhs and after meeting the bulk of the expenditure from the closing balance of the Cochin Landing and Shipping Fund, the Port Conservancy Board requires an additional loan of Rs. 1·70 lakhs in the current year. The loan will be repaid in sixty half-yearly equated payments of Rs. 5,658 to cover principal and interest at $5\frac{1}{4}$ per cent per annum. The revenues of the Port can afford to finance loans up to 48 lakhs. It is proposed to disburse the loan in the current year, the amount being met from the reserve under “Loans and Advances by Provincial Governments”.

FORT ST. GEORGE, }
16th March 1927. }

T. E. MOIR,

THE MADRAS LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

Tuesday, the 22nd March 1927.

The House met at 11 o'clock, Mr. President (the hon. Rao Bahadur C. V. S. NARASIMHA RAJU Garu) in the chair.

PRESENT:

Ramaswami Ayyar, K.C.I.E., The hon. Sir C. P.
 Marjoribanks, C.S.I., C.I.E., The hon. Mr. N. E.
 Usman Sahib Bahadur, The hon. Khan Bahadur Muhammad.
 Moir, C.S.I., C.I.E., The hon. Mr. T. E. Subbarayan, The hon. Dr. P.
 Ranganatha Mudaliyar, The hon. Mr. A. Arogyaswami Mudaliyar, The hon. Diwan Bahadur R. N.
 Abbas Ali Khan Bahadur.
 Abdul Hye Sahib Bahadur, K.
 Abdul Razaq Sahib Bahadur, Khan Bahadur S. K.
 Abdul Hamid Khan Sahib Bahadur.
 Abdul Wahab Sahib Bahadur, Munshi.
 Adinarayana Chettiyar, Mr. T.
 Anjancayulu, Mr. P.
 Appavu Chettiyar, Mr. C. D.
 Ari Gowder, Mr. H. B.
 Arpudaswami Udayar, Mr. S.
 Basheer Ahmad Sayeed Sahib Bahadur.
 Bazi-ul-lah Sahib Bahadur, C.I.E., C.B.E., Khan Bahadur Muhammad.
 Bhaktavatsulu Nayudu, Mr. P.
 Bheemayya, Mr. J.
 Biswanath Das Mahasayo, Sriman.
 Boag, Mr. G. T.
 Congreve, Mr. C. R. T.
 Cotterell, C.I.E., Mr. C. B.
 Davis, Mr. J. A.
 Dorai Raja, Mr. S. N.
 Ethirajulu Nayudu, Diwan Bahadur P. C.
 Gangadhara Siva, Mr. M. V.
 Gnanavaram Pillai, Mr.
 Gopala Menon, Mr. C.
 Govindaraja Mudaliyar, Mr. C. S.
 Guruswami, Rao Sahib L. C.
 Hall, O.B.E., Mr. J. F.
 Hampayya, Rai Sahib M.
 Harisarvottama Rao, Mr. G.
 Hearson, Mr. H. F. P.
 John, Mr. V. Ch.
 Kaleswara Rao, Mr. A.
 Karant, Mr. K. B.
 Khadir Mohidin Sahib Bahadur, Muhammad.
 Koti Reddi, Mr. K.
 Krishnan, Mr. K.
 Krishnan Nayar, Diwan Bahadur M.
 Krishnaswami Nayakar, Mr. K. V.
 Kumara Raja of Venkatagiri.
 Kumaraswami Reddiyar, Diwan Bahadur S.
 Madhavan Nayar, Mr. K.

Mahmud Schamnad Sahib Bahadur.
 Mallayya, Dr. B. S.
 Manikkavelu Nayakar, Mr. M. A.
 Moore, C.I.E., Mr. P. L.
 Marudavanam Pillai, Mr. C.
 Meera Ravuttar Bahadur, K. P. V. S. Muhammad
 Muniswami Nayudu, Rao Bahadur B.
 Muniswami Pillai, Mr. V. I.
 Muppil Nayar of Kavalappara, Mr.
 Muttayya Mudaliyar, Mr. S.
 Muthulakshmi Reddi, Dr. (Mrs.).
 Muthuranga Mudaliyar, Mr. C. N.
 Nagan Chowda, Mr. R.
 Nanjappa Bahadur, Subadar-Major S. A.
 Narayana Raju, Mr. D.
 Narayanan Nambudripad, Rao Bahadur O. M.
 Narayanaswami Pillai, Mr. T. M.
 Obi Reddi, Mr. C.
 Pandrang Rao, Mr. V.
 Parthasarathi Ayyangar, Mr. C. R.
 Patro, Kt., Rao Bahadur Sir A. P.
 Premayya, Mr. G. R.
 Raja of Panagal, K.C.I.E.
 Raja of Ramnad.
 Rajan, Mr. P. T.
 Ramachandra Padayachi, Mr. K.
 Ramachandra Reddi, Mr. B.
 Ramanath Goenka, Mr.
 Ramasomayajulu, Mr. C.
 Ramaswami Ayyar, Mr. U.
 Ratnaswamipati Mudaliyar, Rao Bahadur C. S.
 Sahajanandam, Swami A. S.
 Saldanha, Mr. J. A.
 Sami Venkateshbalam Chetti, Mr.
 Sarabha Reddi, Mr. K.
 Satyamurti, Mr. S.
 Seturatnam Ayyar, Mr. M. R.
 Shetty, Mr. A. B.
 Sitarana Reddi, Rao Bahadur K.
 Siva Raj, Mr. N.
 Sivasubrahmanya Ayyar, Mr. K. S.
 Slater, C.I.E., Mr. S. H.
 Smith, Mr. J. Mackenzie.
 Soundara Pandia Nadar, Mr. W. P. A.
 Srinivasa Ayyangar, Mr. R.
 Srinivasa Ayyangar, Mr. T. C.
 Srinivasan, Rao Sahib R.
 Subrahmanya Moopanar, Mr. S.
 Subrahmanya Pillai, Mr. Chavadi K.
 Sundaramurti Pillai, Rao Sahib P. V. S.
 Swami, Mr. K. V. R.
 Syed Ibrahim Sahib Bahadur.

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PRESENT—cont.

Tajudin Sahib Bahadur, Syed.
 Thomas, Mr. D.
 Tulasiram, Mr. L. K.
 Uppi Sahib Bahadur, K.
 Vanavudaiya Goundar, Mr. S. V.
 Venkatapati Raju, Mr. P. C.
 Venkatarama Sastri, C.I.E., Mr. T. R.
 Venkataramana Ayyangar, Mr. C. V.

Venkataramam Nayudu, Mr. C.
 Venkataratnam, Mr. B.
 Venkiah, Mr. S.
 Wood, Mr. C. E.
 Zamindar of Gollapalli.
 Zamindar of Mirzapuram.
 Zamindar of Seithur.

I

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" I should inform the House that ordinarily only eight questions belonging to one hon. Member are put each day ; but to-day I have asked the Secretary to put all the questions of Messrs. Ethirajulu Nayudu and Ramaachandra Reddi in connexion with the Mettur project. They are really fourteen in number."

Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR :—" I had given notice of some questions on the same subject ; probably the answers are not ready."

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" Perhaps the questions are not identical ones or the answers are not received in the office. The questions put on the paper to-day are identical ones. I believe the House will not object to the putting of more than eight questions of the same Member. I thought that as they dealt with the same subject and were received in a batch in my office, it was better to put them all together on the same day."

[Order made by the President of the Madras Legislative Council under Standing Order No. 15.]

1. Starred questions to be put at a meeting of the Council with their answers shall be printed and placed on the Council table an hour before the President takes his seat.

The President will call out the name of each interpellator in the order in which the names are printed, specify the serial number of his question and make a sufficient pause to give him or any other member a reasonable opportunity of rising in his place and putting a supplementary question. Supplementary questions must be put immediately after the principal questions to which they relate.

2. If a member responsible for a starred question happens to be absent when it is called, it will be open either to him or to any other Member to put supplementary questions thereon after the other starred questions for the day have been answered, provided question-time is not thereby exceeded.

3. Questions, not starred, will not be called in Council, but they will be printed with their answers and placed on the table of the House along with the list of starred questions. Oral supplementary questions will not be allowed in regard to unstarred questions.]

STARRED QUESTIONS

Irrigation

Estimate for the Mettur dam.

* 443 Q.—Diwan Bahadur P. C. ETHIRAJULU NAYUDU : Will the hon. the Law Member, the hon. the Member for Revenue and the hon. the Member for Finance be pleased to state—

(a) what was the total estimate for the Mettur dam when it was contemplated in 1913 ; and

(b) what is the estimate at present of the Head Works and of the canals contemplated to be dug out ?

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A.—(a) & (b) The following statement compares the cost as estimated in 1910 and 1924 :—

	1910.	1924.
	RS.	RS.
	LAKHS.	LAKHS.
Head works	192	339
Canal system	115	193

Diwan Bahadur P. C. ETHIRAJULU NAYUDU :—“ May I know whether there is any difference in the area to be irrigated between 1910 and 1924 ? ”

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—“ That is not part of the question, Sir. I should like to have notice, Sir.”

Mr. B. RAMACHANDRA REDDI :—“ May I know if any estimates have been prepared in 1916 ? ”

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—“ Not that I am aware of.”

Mr. B. RAMACHANDRA REDDI :—“ Before that ? ”

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—“ Not that I am aware of.”

Mr. P. C. VENKATAPATI RAJU :—“ May I know the reason for the increase in the estimate before the work is actually begun ? ”

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—“ The estimates have been practically doubled on account of the increase in the cost of labour and materials. The hon. Member who deals with matters of this kind must know the difference between 1910 and 1924.”

Increase in estimates consequent on the change of the site of the Mettur dam.

* 444 Q.—Diwan Bahadur P. C. ETHIRAJULU NAYUDU : Will the hon. the Law Member, the hon. the Member for Revenue and the hon. the Member for Finance be pleased to state—

(a) what is the change in the cost on account of the shifting of the site of the Head Works of the Mettur dam a mile up stream from the originally sanctioned site ;

(b) whether it is fact that the estimates are likely to go up by an additional 40 lakhs at least on account of such shifting ; and

(c) whether the revised estimates have been submitted to the Secretary of State and to the Government of India for sanction and whether it has been brought to the notice of either of these authorities that consequent on the shifting of the site of the Head Works, there has been an increase in the estimate ?

A.—(a) & (b) The cost at the new site is roughly estimated to be 27 lakhs more than the sanctioned estimate for the dam. That estimate, however, required revision both on account of the extra height of dam needed to store the additional 13 thousand million cubic feet permitted by the recent agreement with the Mysore Darbar, and because further investigation showed that the foundations would have to be lower owing to the inferior nature of the old site. The addition to the old estimate on these accounts is estimated to involve a slightly higher cost than that of the dam at the new site.

(c) The sanction of the Government of India, and the Secretary of State will not be needed unless the excess is more than 15 per cent of the sanctioned estimate. This appears improbable.

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The change of site has, however, been reported to the Government of India, and fully concurred in by the Consulting Engineer to that Government.

Diwan Bahadur P. C. ETHIRAJULU NAYUDU :—" May I know whether any borings have finally been carried out in the new site ? "

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" There is another question regarding borings later on. "

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—" Borings are going on, Sir. "

Diwan Bahadur P. C. ETHIRAJULU NAYUDU :—" At what depth is the bed rock level likely to be reached ? "

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—" So far as we are at present appraised, thirty to forty feet will be the maximum. "

Diwan Bahadur P. C. ETHIRAJULU NAYUDU :—" May I ask the hon. the Law Member whether the bed rock level is more favourable in the old site or in the new site ? "

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—" The new site is more favourable, Sir. "

Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR :—" On what is this opinion based ? "

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—" On the combined opinion of the geologists of the Government of India and the experts of the Madras Government. "

Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR :—" In Volume I of the Papers relating to the Mettur Reservoir Project, page 20, paragraph 66, it is stated that the site now selected was geologically less safe than the old Mettur dam site now given up. "

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—" That matter has been before the geological expert of the Government of India. The latest opinion of the geological expert of the Government of India is to the contrary effect. As the hon. Member is well aware, in such a matter, we can only act upon the opinion of geological experts. Moreover we are not going to be content with mere general information of the geological strata and the formation of the rocks. We are rather going by actual testings all through the site to make clear how the bed rock comes. "

Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR :—" Was not the investigation before 1910 based on actual borings at the sites marked A, B, C and D and was it not a fact that D, the Mettur site, was considered the safest and A, the new site, the least safe ? "

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—" No, Sir. In this case they adopted only select borings and not continuous borings throughout the site. I may say, Sir, that the first site to which he refers is not exactly the site at present selected. The present site is supposed to be the best, the engineering and the geological experts concurring in that opinion. "

Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR :—" Was not this particular site tested in 1910 ? "

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—" No, Sir. The site marked D was superficially tested by select borings and not continuous borings throughout the site. "

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Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR :—" May I remind the hon. Member that in the report on the Mettur project the site marked D is the Mettur site which has now been abandoned and the site A is the new site now taken up which had been originally found to be less satisfactory ? "

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—" I believe the new site now selected and being worked upon is the site marked Y."

Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR :—" Where is it marked ? In Volume I we see only four letters, A, B, C, D. At what stage of the investigation was this tested ? "

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—" Later investigations, Sir."

Increase in the estimates for the Mettur dam.

* 445 Q.—Mr. B. RAMACHANDRA REDDI : Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(a) what was the total estimate for the Mettur dam when it was contemplated in 1913 ;

(b) what is the estimate at present of the Head Works and of the canals contemplated to be dug out ;

(c) whether it is a fact that the site of the Head Works has been shifted by about a mile westwards from the site originally selected and approved of by the Secretary of State ;

(d) what is the difference in the cost on account of the shifting of the site ;

(e) whether it is a fact that the estimates are likely to go up by an additional 40 lakhs at least on account of such shifting ; and

(f) whether the revised estimates have been submitted to the Secretary of State and to the Government of India for sanction and whether it has been brought to the notice of either of these authorities that consequent on the shifting of the site of the head works, there has been an increase in the estimate amount ?

A.—(a) & (b) The attention of the hon. Member is invited to the answer to question No. 443.

(c) Yes ; northward and not westward.

(d), (e) & (f) The attention of the hon. Member is invited to the answer to question No. 444.

Purchase of machinery for the Mettur project.

* 446 Q.—Diwan Bahadur P. C. ETHIRAJULU NAYUDU : Will the hon. the Law Member, the hon. the Member for Revenue and the hon. the Member for Finance be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that machinery worth about 90 lakhs of rupees is contemplated to be purchased for the construction of the Mettur dam ;

(b) the details of the machinery contemplated to be bought ;

(c) whether this machinery is to be purchased direct by the Local Government through its own agent, or through the High Commissioner's office ;

(d) whether the Government have called for any tenders for the supply of such machinery, or whether they contemplate calling for such tenders ;

(e) if they have called for any tenders, the countries from which such tenders were called for, and the names of firms tendered ;

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(f) whether it has been advertised only in England or Great Britain or whether advertisements have been sent to the leading papers in Germany, France and America;

(g) whether Government advertised and called for any tenders from India; if so, what are the papers in which they were advertised;

(h) at what stage of the construction each item of machinery is required;

(i) whether it is a fact that three machines for digging purposes have been purchased at a cost of six lakhs of rupees;

(j) what was the necessity for purchasing these machines; and

(k) whether it is in connexion with the Head Works or the digging of canals that these machines have been purchased?

A.—(a) No. The sanctioned estimate provides Rs. 63.82 lakhs for “Special tools and plant” for the head works. Of this, about 5 lakhs has already been spent on minor items of plant, e.g., wagons, drills and small crushers. The Chief Engineer has just submitted the report of the special officer on the principal machinery for the dam construction, in which he estimates the cost at approximately 50 lakhs.

There may thus be some saving on the sanctioned estimate.

(b) The machinery dealt with in the report includes concrete-placing machinery, quarrying plant, crushers, electric power station, and subsidiary plant.

(c) to (g) The attention of the hon. Member is invited to the answer given to question No. 386 put by the hon. Member for Coimbatore.

(h) The nature of the plant will show that the different parts will, generally speaking, be operated together.

(i) The Government understand that the Chief Engineer has purchased three excavators costing approximately the sum mentioned.

(j) & (k) The excavators are required for digging the canals.

Purchase of machines for digging in connexion with the Mettur project.

* 417 Q.—MR. B. RAMACHANDRA REDDI: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(a) at what stage of the construction of the Mettur dam the machinery is required;

(b) whether it is a fact that three machines for digging purposes have been purchased at a cost of six lakhs of rupees;

(c) if so, what was the necessity for purchasing these machines; and

(d) whether it is in connexion with the head works or the digging of canals that these machines have been purchased?

A.—(a) From the initial stage.

(b) The attention of the hon. Member is invited to the answer given to question No. 446, clause (i)

(c) & (d) The machines are required for excavating the canals.

Diwan Bahadur P. O. ETHIRAJULU NAYUDU :—“Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to place on the table the report of the special officer on the principal machinery required for the dam?”

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—“I have already promised to do so after Government have considered the report.”

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Diwan Bahadur P. C. ETHIRAJULU NAYUDU :—" May I know whether he has suggested where this special kind of machinery could be obtained ? "

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—" It is only after Government have considered that report, that they can answer this question. "

Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—" With reference to the answer to clause (i) of question No. 446, may I know whether the Chief Engineer is authorized to purchase such big machinery of his own accord without reference to Government ? "

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—" The Chief Engineer has power to make local purchases up to Rs. 50,000. "

Mr. B. RAMACHANDRA REDDI :—" In the answer to clause (a) of question 446, it is stated that the sanctioned estimate provides Rs. 63·82 lakhs. May I know what the original estimate was ? "

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—" The sanctioned estimate which was sent up to the Government of India and the Secretary of State and received the sanction of the latter provided Rs. 63·82 lakhs. "

Diwan Bahadur P. C. ETHIRAJULU NAYUDU :—" With reference to the answer to clause (i) of question 446, may I know what is the necessity for the purchase of these excavators when there is plenty of human labour available ? "

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—" Because in the long run it would be much cheaper and much more expeditious and, on the whole, it was considered better for the progress of the work. "

Mr. B. RAMACHANDRA REDDI :—" May I know the reason for the difference of 14 lakhs between the sanctioned estimate and the present special officer's estimate ? "

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—" The hon. Member is under a grave misapprehension. We have power to purchase the machinery up to 63 lakhs. At present, we propose to purchase for 50 lakhs. It may be, we may have to purchase more. "

Mr. B. RAMACHANDRA REDDI :—" Was any particular type of machinery suggested by the High Commissioner ? "

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—" The High Commissioner has received information and particulars regarding various types. We have received advice from the Government of India, from the High Commissioner and his expert staff. "

Mr. B. RAMACHANDRA REDDI :—" Are these machinery purchased from England alone or are they purchased from other countries also ? "

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—" We have not decided on the purchase of the machinery. "

Mr. B. RAMACHANDRA REDDI :—" Will the Government get any commission on the purchase of this machinery ? "

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—" I do not believe so, Sir. Before the Government have decided to purchase the machinery we cannot say whether we are likely to get any commission and whether there is any such procedure. "

Diwan Bahadur P. C. ETHIRAJULU NAYUDU :—" Is there not a practice of giving return commissions for purchases made by the Government ? "

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The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—" I take it that the High Commissioner will be aware of it, if such a practice exists. The Madras Government will not lose the benefit of that practice if it exists."

Diwan Bahadur P. C. ETHIRAJULU NAYUDU :—" May I know whether the land required for the big canal has been acquired ? "

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—" Being acquired, Mr. President."

Diwan Bahadur P. C. ETHIRAJULU NAYUDU :—" When will the digging of the big canal be undertaken ? "

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—" As soon as the preparations are ready. The excavation work has already been started to a certain extent. It is expected that the canal works will be completed before the reservoir is completed."

Diwan Bahadur P. C. ETHIRAJULU NAYUDU :—" Have the Engineering officers settled on the alignment of canals branching off from the Grand Anicut canal ? "

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—" The answer has been given to one of the succeeding questions."

Mr. K. R. KARANT :—" May I know whether the Chief Engineer is allowed to purchase machinery of his own accord for Rs. 50,000 for the whole project, or is he allowed to purchase for that amount every time ? "

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—" He is allowed to purchase up to Rs. 50,000."

Rao Bahadur C. S. RATNASABAPATI MUDALIYAR :—" With reference to clause (i), are these three excavators of such a design that they can be had from only one company or whether they can be obtained from any other company ? "

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—" I do not believe they are of any particular design. These excavators are fairly well known. They are being used in Sukkur, in Bombay and in every modern canal construction."

Rao Bahadur C. S. RATNASABAPATI MUDALIYAR :—" If they are not of a particular design, will the Government call for tenders before they purchase them ? "

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—" Notice, Sir."

11-15
a.m.

Mr. G. HARISARVOTTAMA RAO :—" May I know whether the power of the Chief Engineer to spend up to Rs. 50,000 in the purchase of machinery is a statutory one ? "

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—" Under rules made by the Government."

Mr. G. HARISARVOTTAMA RAO :—" They can, then, be changed by the Government."

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—" Yes, by the Government of India, Sir."

Mr. G. HARISARVOTTAMA RAO :—" Has the Government of Madras no control over the Rs. 50,000 which the Chief Engineer spends ? "

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—" The Government of Madras has its own control over its Chief Engineer."

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Mr. G. HARISARVOTTAMA RAO :—“ Will the Government of Madras see that the Chief Engineer does not purchase machinery worth Rs. 50,000 every time without reference to the Government ? ”

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—“ It is not a question of purchasing without reference to the Government. Government have authorized him to purchase excavators and he uses this power. But Government, of course, will take every precaution to see that large purchases are not made without reference to them.”

Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—“ What checks have Government introduced in order to see that wrong purchases are not made ? We are familiar with such purchases.”

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—“ Purchases are generally made in consultation with the High Commissioner or the Indian Stores Department. Both of them have under them expert staffs which tender advice as to the nature and quality of the machinery that is intended to be purchased. These excavators were purchased by the Chief Engineer for the Madras Government through the High Commissioner acting with the help of his expert advisers.”

Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—“ May I know whether there are any checks locally made here by the Madras Government to see that the purchases made by the High Commissioner or the Indian Stores Department are suitable to our requirements ? ”

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—“ I am glad the hon. Member has put that question. I may refer him to the appendix to the answer to a question lower down in the list which says that one of the duties of the Commissioner for this project is to examine the systems of purchase and custody of stores with a view to prevent overlapping of orders and to advise the Government as to the effect of the orders regarding the purchase of the stores through the Indian Stores Department. It was in advertence to the ideas which are animating my hon. friend that that step had been taken.”

Rao Bahadur C. S. RATNASABAPATI MUDALIYAR :—“ May I know whether in case contractors come forward to complete the work of excavation by manual labour within the specified period, the hon. the Law Member will give up the idea of purchasing the excavators ? ”

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—“ No, Sir.”

Mr. C. GOPALA MENON :—“ Are similar machinery used in other presidencies ? ”

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—“ Yes, Sir.”

Mr. G. HARISARVOTTAMA RAO :—“ May I know if all the excavation work is intended to be done by the excavators alone ? ”

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—“ In the canals and probably not in the distributaries.”

Mr. G. HARISARVOTTAMA RAO :—“ If any part of the work is to be done by manual labour, how is it that three excavators have been purchased without any initial experiment being conducted to find out the relative cost of manual labour and machinery ? ”

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The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—“ We have figures regarding the relative cost of machinery and manual labour derived from the experience in other Presidencies which have undertaken big irrigation works. In any case if within the seven years which is hoped to be the maximum time for the completion of the headwork, if the canal work is to be completed, we arrived at the conclusion that the excavators should be used. As I have stated in answer to the previous question manual labour will be used in the distributaries and there will be ample scope for such utilization of manual labour.”

Mr. G. HARISARVOTTAMA RAO :—“ May I know, Sir, if no further orders will be given for buying the excavators until the excavator has been practically worked on this scheme by the Government and the comparative cost ascertained ? ”

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—“ That question will be noted.”

Mr. K. R. KARANT :—“ May I know when these excavators were purchased actually and used ? ”

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—“ They were purchased through the High Commissioner and they will be introduced at once.”

Mr. K. R. KARANT :—“ May I know the exact time they were purchased ? ”

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—“ Notice, Sir.”

Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR :—“ May I take it that the sum of Rs. 63 lakhs is for the purchase of machinery to be used till the Mettur project is fully completed ? ”

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—“ That is for the head works. Yes.”

Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR :—“ Will only a sum of Rs. 50 lakhs be spent as at present estimated ? ”

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—“ Yes, Sir.”

Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR :—“ May I know if the Government have any idea of the machinery that will be purchased during the ten years by which time the project will be completed ? ”

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—“ The expectation is that the project will be completed within seven years and not ten years. The Government are of opinion that very little further machinery will be required.”

Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR :—“ Have the Government any idea of all possible machinery that may be required in the future ? ”

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—“ They have an idea.”

Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR :—“ May I know what it is ? ”

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—“ Notice, Sir.”

Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR :—“ With reference to the answer to clause (b) may I take it that the whole machinery referred to therein will cost Rs. 50 lakhs ? ”

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—“ No, Sir.”

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Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR :—" May I know whether this Government have liberty to purchase the machinery without the intervention of the High Commissioner ? "

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—" Yes, Sir."

Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR :—" Are the Government aware that it would be cheaper to get the machinery purchased by this Government direct instead of through the High Commissioner ? Will the Government do so ? "

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—" That matter will be considered."

Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR :—" If the concrete-placing machinery is not used, the estimate shows that about 580 expert masons will be employed on this dam. May I ask, how ? "

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—" I am indebted to the hon. Member for the information."

Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR :—" May I know whether that information is correct ? "

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—" Notice."

Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR :—" How many masons will be saved by using this machinery ? "

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—" Notice, Sir."

Use of lime in the construction of the Mettur dam.

* 448 Q.—Diwan Bahadur P. C. ETHIRAJULU NAYUDU : Will the hon. the Law Member, the hon. the Member for Revenue and the hon. the Member for Finance be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that the present estimate for the Mettur project is based on the hypothesis that lime will be used in the construction of the dam ;

(b) whether it is a fact that the Government contemplate using cement instead of lime in the construction of the dam ; if so, whether it is imported continental cement or cement manufactured in India that is going to be used ; and

(c) what increase in the estimates would be necessitated by such an alteration ?

A.—(a) Yes.

(b) & (c) The Chief Engineer has advised in favour of cement on the ground that lime is considered less able to bear the stress involved in the dam which will be the biggest in the world.

The point has not yet been decided, because it is necessary to have fuller information as to the comparative cost of lime and cement at the dam site, and this information is being collected. Cement of Indian manufacture is now available at a price which may probably justify its use instead of lime ; and the Chief Engineer is of opinion that the extra cost of cement, if any, will be so small as to be counterbalanced by its far greater durability.

Diwan Bahadur P. C. ETHIRAJULU NAYUDU :—" What is the approximate extra cost of substituting cement for lime ? "

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The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—"That is a matter which is being worked out now."

Diwan Bahadur P. C. ETHIRAJULU NAYUDU :—"Is it a fact that practically all the dams in India are built with lime?"

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—"That is so, Sir."

Diwan Bahadur P. C. ETHIRAJULU NAYUDU :—"Why not adopt the same principle here?"

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—"The printed answer contains the reply of the Government to this question."

Mr. T. ADINARAYANA CHETTIYAR :—"May I ask the hon. the Law Member what is the material used, cement or mortar for great dams in the world and for the Egyptian dam?"

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—"The latter dam, cement."

Mr. S. MUTTAYYA MUDALIYAR :—"May I know whether cement or lime has been used for all the dams in India?"

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—"Lime, Sir."

Mr. S. MUTTAYYA MUDALIYAR :—"Then where is the necessity to use cement for this dam?"

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—"Later scientific ideas, Sir."

Mr. S. MUTTAYYA MUDALIYAR :—"May I know whether there is difference of opinion between Engineers as regards the stress and strain which the materials used will be able to bear and whether Mr. Manikkavelu Naickar did not deliver a lecture on that subject in the Corporation?"

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—"The Government have not appreciated it, Sir."

Mr. S. MUTTAYYA MUDALIYAR :—"May I know whether lime is used in the construction of dams in Northern India?"

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—"Largely, yes."

Mr. S. MUTTAYYA MUDALIYAR :—"May I know whether the change introduced will create extra pressure on the dam?"

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—"Notice, Sir."

Mr. S. MUTTAYYA MUDALIYAR :—"May I ask if the hon. the Law Member has decided to use cement without knowing all these facts, and how the Chief Engineer came to the conclusion that cement was better than lime?"

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—"I am surprised at the question. The answer definitely says that the Government have not yet decided whether cement or lime should be used. The Chief Engineer with special expert knowledge has arrived at the idea that cement is better than lime. The Government have not yet agreed with him. I cannot say now whether the Government will agree with him. Therefore all the aspects which have been put forward by hon. Members and other aspects put forward in journals, in newspapers and by publicists and Engineers of experience including lectures delivered by more or less experts will be considered in coming to a decision."

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Mr. C. GOPALA MENON :—" Will the Government see that the cement manufactured in India will be used if it is as good as imported cement ? "

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—" I may say this ; if cement is used, only Indian cement will be used."

Mr. C. GOPALA MENON :—" Which is more economical, cement or lime ? "

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—" There is no doubt that cement will cost more. The only question is the balance of convenience and advantage, namely, as to whether the course considered desirable, i.e., cement construction, will give adequate return for the extra cost that will undoubtedly be involved by the use of cement instead of lime. That is one of the predominant matters engaging the attention of the Government."

Mr. ABUL HAMID KHAN :—" The hon. the Law Member stated that the Government have not yet decided whether cement or lime should be used. That means they have not agreed with the Chief Engineer. May I know who is the other Engineering authority to which the Government propose to refer the matter ? "

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—" I am not in a position to give definite information. I may however tell him that there are constituted authorities brought into existence by the Government of India and there are experts in other parts of the country who may, if the Government entertain a doubt in the matter, be consulted."

Mr. S. MUTTAYYA MUDALIYAR :—" With reference to the last three lines of the answer may I know what the small extra cost will be ? "

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—" Notice, Sir."

Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR :—" May I know whether the Engineering authorities including the Chief Engineer for Irrigation have gone previously into the question and stated that rubble machinery could be used for this dam ? "

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—" I am aware that such opinions have been expressed. It is however a fact that all the recently constructed dams in the world 75 or 80 per cent of them—have been constructed with cement. That matter has been brought to the notice of the Government. Whether that circumstance by itself is sufficient to turn the scale is a question which Government will anxiously consider. They will consider also, when full figures of the difference of the cost are brought to the notice of the Government, whether the difference in cost is so great as not to induce the Government to depart from the Indian practice and to follow what may be called the general practice abroad which has been recently adopted with reference to the use of cement."

Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR :—" May I know whether it is a fact that all the dams in the world before 1916 were built with lime and mortar ? "

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—" That is just the trouble. After 1916 every Engineering authority in South America, in Egypt, in North America and especially in the United States of America, has

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advocated the use of cement as preferable to lime. It may be that cement construction may not be useful in India. But within the last five or six years the universal practice is to construct dams with cement rather than with lime."

Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR :—" May I know whether it has been reported that all the materials including sand and concrete for putting up this dam are available near the site itself ? "

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—" That, I believe, is the gist of the report we have received."

Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR :—" Is the hon. Member aware that the necessary materials are available at the site even according to the old estimates ? "

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—" No doubt that very important fact will be borne in mind and I am indebted to the hon. Member who has conveyed the information contained in the question."

Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR :—" May I know if a large quantity of sand has already been gathered for about 10 miles up and near the dam ? "

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—" That seems to be so."

Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR :—" What is the cost of the sand that has already been gathered there ? "

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—" Notice, Sir."

Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR :—" If the price will be very great, will the hon. Member take that fact also into consideration, because all the sand collected all these three years near the site will become useless, when the question of lime or cement is considered."

Mr. T. ADINARAYANA CHETTIYAR :—" The hon. the Law Member stated that after 1916 the experts in every part of the world have preferred cement to lime. May I know whether they have got lime in those countries ? "

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—" That is a matter on which I am perfectly ignorant."

Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR :—" May I know whether there is a proposal before the Government to put up a cement factory near the dam in view of the fact that all the materials required for making cement are available there ? "

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—" That is a suggestion for action which will be borne in mind."

Mr. S. MUTTAYYA MUDALIYAR :—" May I know what experience of dam construction has the Chief Engineer got ? "

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—" It is true that no great dams were constructed after the Toladur dam was built. Actual experience has not been obtained by the Chief Engineer for the reason that no first-class irrigation project was undertaken recently."

(Mr. C. V. Venkataramana Ayyangar rose to put a supplementary question.)

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" I would like to follow the practice of calling the same hon. Member if he wants to put another question."

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Mr. S. MUTTAYYA MUDALIYAR :—“ May I know whether the gentleman who was in charge of the Toladur dam is in Government service ? ”

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—“ He is available and is availed of.”

Mr. S. MUTTAYYA MUDALIYAR :—“ Is he of opinion that cement is better than lime ? ”

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—“ His opinion has not been called for.”

Mr. S. MUTTAYYA MUDALIYAR :—“ May I know if his opinion will be called for ? ”

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—“ I shall take that suggestion for action into consideration when the question is considered.”

Mr. S. MUTTAYYA MUDALIYAR :—“ May I ask if any of the gentlemen who were in charge of the Periyar dam is in service and whether the Madras Government would consult those who were in charge of the construction of the big Kannambadi dam in Mysore ? ”

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—“ One of the Engineers who constructed the Kannambadi dam is no doubt available. I know that many others are not.”

Mr. S. MUTTAYYA MUDALIYAR :—“ May I ask the hon. the Law Member whether Sir Visweswarayya, who was in charge of the construction of the dam, is available, and whether his advice will be taken ? ”

The hon. Sir. C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—“ That is the gentleman I referred to, but we have not considered the possibility of asking for his advice.”

Mr. S. MUTTAYYA MUDALIYAR :—“ Do the Government propose to apply for his advice ? ”

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—“ Notice, Sir.”

Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR :—“ May I know if it is Mr. Mullings who is referred to in the answer as the Chief Engineer who gave the opinion ? ”

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—“ Yes, Sir.”

Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR :—“ When did he become the Chief Engineer for Irrigation ? ”

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—“ He is now the Chief Engineer for Irrigation.”

Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR :—“ When did he become Chief Engineer ? ”

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—“ Two years ago.”

Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR :—“ Has he had any experience in dam construction ? ”

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—“ He built the very big dam in Hyderabad. That dam has been very well reported about. That was six or seven years ago.”

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Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR :—" Was it built with cement or lime ? "

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—" Notice."

Mr. T. ADINARAYANA CHETTIYAR :—" May I know whether the hon. Member has any objection to take the advice of one of the greatest Engineers in India, Sir Visweswarayya ? "

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—" The question has already been answered."

Mr. S. MUTTAIYA MUDALIYAR :—" As this is one of the biggest dams in the world, may I ask whether the hon. the Law Member will consider the desirability of consulting Engineers in other parts of the world ? "

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—" That will be noted. It appears to me that in this matter if the Government want to get advice, they have very adequate advice in India itself. For the last 7 or 8 years the Bombay Government have been pursuing a forward irrigation policy. Many dams have been constructed, three or four of them by the Government and two by the Tatas. In the Punjab a very extensive irrigation scheme has been adopted. There are Engineering experts in India and if Government consider it necessary to avail themselves of the advice of such Engineers, they will resort to the Government of India to give them assistance which they undoubtedly will."

Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR :—" May I know if the hon. Member knows that one of the biggest dams, the Kannambadi dam, was built with lime and mortar ? "

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—" Notice, Sir."

Use of lime in the construction of the Mettur dam

* 449 Q.—Mr. B. RAMACHANDRA REDDI. Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that the present estimate for the Mettur project is based on the hypothesis that lime will be used in the construction of the dam ;

(b) whether it is a fact that the Government now contemplate using cement instead of lime in the construction of the dam ;

(c) if so, whether it is imported continental cement or cement manufactured in India that is going to be used ; and

(d) what increase in the estimates would be necessitated by such an alteration ?

A—(a) to (d) The attention of the hon. Member is invited to the answer to question No. 448.

Water rate for lands to be brought under the Mettur scheme.

* 450 Q.—Diwan Bahadur P. C. ETHIRAJULU NAYUDU : Will the hon. the Law Member, the hon. the Member for Revenue and the hon. the Member for Finance be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that 82,000 acres out of the present 310,000 acres contemplated to be brought under the Mettur scheme lie in deltaic area ;

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(b) whether it is a fact that lands adjacent to these 82,000 acres pay a water-rate of only Rs. 5 to Rs. 10 and that it is contemplated to make these lands pay a water-rate of Rs. 14; and

(c) whether it is a fact that it has been suggested that a flat rate of charges should be adopted both for the ten lakhs of acres already under cultivation and for the three lakhs odd of acres proposed to be brought under cultivation as the dam will benefit both the old land-owners and the new?

A.—(a) & (b) The new area of 310,000 acres to be brought under the project and the rates which it is proposed to charge are detailed in the following statement:—

- (i) 99,474 acres of Government dry lands at Rs. 15 per acre.
- (ii) 119,009 acres of zamindari and inam dry lands at Rs. 15 per acre.
- (iii) 64,349 acres of zamindari and inam wet lands at Rupees 7-8-0 per acre.
- (iv) 16,400 acres of Government wet occupied at Rs. 2 per acre.
- (v) 1,768 acres of Government wet unoccupied at Rs. 6 per acre. The area of 82,000 acres mentioned in the question is made up of items (iii), (iv) and (v) above and comparatively low rates are proposed for them in view of the fact that they are already paying a wet assessment under inferior sources of irrigation. (i) and (ii) comprise the bulk of the new area for which a rate of Rs. 15 per acre is proposed to be levied.

(c) The Government are not aware of any such suggestion.

Water-rate for lands to be brought under the Mettur scheme.

* 451 Q.—MR. B. RAMACHANDRA REDDI: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that 82,000 acres out of the present 310,000 acres contemplated to be brought under the Mettur scheme, lie already in deltaic area;

(b) whether it is a fact that the lands adjacent to these 82,000 acres pay a water-rate of only Rs. 5 to Rs. 10 and that it is contemplated to charge these lands a water-rate at Rs. 14; and

(c) whether it is also a fact that it has been suggested that a flat rate should be adopted both for the 10,000 acres already in cultivation and the 3 lakhs proposed to be newly brought under cultivation as the dam will benefit the owners of both the old and new lands?

A.—The attention of the hon. Member is invited to the answer to question No. 450.

Diwan Bahadur P. C. ETHIRAJULU NAYUDU:—"May I know under what power do the Government propose to levy the rate of Rs. 15 per acre?"

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR:—"They would supply water only if that rate is paid."

MR. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR:—"What will the Government do if the people refuse to pay that rate and take water?"

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The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—" Self-interest will dictate the people to get water."

Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR :—" If the Government take that self-interest into consideration and if the water is not used by the people, will not the Government be forced on the same ground of self-interest to give water for any amount offered as otherwise the whole water of the reservoir will have to go to the sea."

Mr. B. RAMACHANDRA REDDI :—" Is there any guarantee, Sir, that the kist shall be collected at these rates ? "

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The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—" There is no guarantee, Sir, but supposing a law is passed, even then it does not mean that a man who does not take water will pay. The question is that if they agree to pay the rate, water will be distributed, and they will pay."

Diwan Bahadur P. C. ETHIRAJULU NAYUDU :—" Do the Government expect that this rate will be accepted by the zamindari and inam dry lands, Sir ? "

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—" They not only expect, Sir, but they know."

Mr. B. RAMACHANDRA REDDI :—" May I know, Sir, whether any undertaking has been given by the ryots of the locality ? "

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—" The Board of Revenue who conducted a very exhaustive inquiry have reported that there is a universal consensus of opinion in that locality, and I hope hon. Members coming from Tanjore will further enlighten us on that matter."

Mr. B. RAMACHANDRA REDDI : - " Has any suggestion been made by the Collector of Tanjore either in 1910 or now regarding these rates ? "

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—" Notice, Sir."

Diwan Bahadur P. C. ETHIRAJULU NAYUDU :—" Sir, are Government going to reclassify the present lands included under class III into class II ? "

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—" That will be noted, Sir."

Diwan Bahadur P. C. ETHIRAJULU NAYUDU :—" Are the Government aware, Sir, that settlement in Tanjore has only recently taken place ? "

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—" I am glad, Sir, that this question has been put, because there is a general misconception on that question here. The resettlement proceeds on the basis that when this water comes, the rates will be altered and yet there is a lot of wild criticism by people who have not read the Resettlement papers."

Diwan Bahadur P. C. ETHIRAJULU NAYUDU :—" Does it mean that there will be a reclassification ? "

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—" Yes, when an occasion arises."

Diwan Bahadur P. C. ETHIRAJULU NAYUDU :—" After settlement or before the settlement expires ? "

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—" When the occasion arises."

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Diwan Bahadur M. KRISHNAN NAYAR :—" May I know, Sir, whether after the alteration, the rate will be Rs. 15 ? "

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—" Yes."

Diwan Bahadur P. C. ETHIRAJULU NAYUDU :—" Is it on the basis of Rs. 15 per acre that a revenue of Rs. 5½ lakhs is shown in the figures here as receipts from the project ? "

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—" It could not be, Sir; the present revenue is shown, but a warning is given there that as soon as the water becomes available, such and such a rate will be charged."

Diwan Bahadur P. C. ETHIRAJULU NAYUDU :—" Then what does this Rs. 5½ lakhs represent ? "

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—" It represents enhancement on classification."

Diwan Bahadur M. KRISHNAN NAYAR :—" Is the levy binding on the tenants, Sir ? "

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—" We hope, Sir, that tenants will take it and we expect so. We have been advised by the best revenue experts, namely, the Board of Revenue, that there will be no difficulty in the levy of Rs. 15 and that the people are anxious to get water at that rate."

Diwan Bahadur M. KRISHNAN NAYAR :—" May I know why it was necessary to include in the Irrigation Bill a provision to the effect that if people or a certain portion of the people in a particular area agree to pay certain rates . . . ? "

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—" An eminent lawyer like the hon. Member from Malabar should be well acquainted with the doctrine of *ex abundanti cautela*."

The RAJA OF RAMNAD :—" May I know, Sir, whether Rs. 15 compares favourably with the existing water-rates ? "

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—" I think the present rates are Rs. 5 and Rs. 7-8-0."

Rao Bahadur C. S. RATNASABAPATI MUDALIYAR :—" The hon. the Law Member said that there was universal consent to take this water. If so, may I ask whether there could be any difficulty in taking muchilikas binding the land-owners to the proposed water-rate, before the channel is excavated ? "

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—" I am greatly indebted to the hon. Member for the suggestion for action which will be considered without any further delay."

Rao Bahadur C. S. RATNASABAPATI MUDALIYAR :—" Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to lay on the table of this House the report of the Board of Revenue which he referred to in answer to a question of Mr. Krishnan Nayar ? "

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—" I think it is already included in the papers placed on the table of the House."

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Mr. G. HARISARVOTTAMA RAO :—“ May I know, Sir, whether the Government have any intention of introducing the Irrigation Law before this particular scheme comes into operation, i.e., as it is estimated, in seven years? ”

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—“ We have every intention, Sir.”

Mr. G. HARISARVOTTAMA RAO :—“ With the right of this House to fix the rates, Sir? ”

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—“ I cannot answer that question, Sir.”

Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR :—“ May I know, Sir, if any written undertakings have been taken from any considerable number or any portion of the ryots of Tanjore? ”

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—“ Some were taken, I know.”

Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR :—“ Is there any idea, Sir, of considering the desirability of passing an Irrigation Act for this particular project, as it has been suggested in the previous history of this matter? ”

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—“ In answer to that question, I can say this : The Government propose to consult the Leaders of the various parties in this House as to the comparative advantages of having a general or comprehensive Irrigation Law applicable to the whole presidency or an Irrigation Law applicable to this and one or two other projects where specific conditions prevail. However, on account of the circumstance adverted to by my hon. Friend, Mr. Harisarvottama Rao, if it becomes difficult to enact or carry through an Irrigation Law having reference to the whole of the Presidency, the next best course and one which the Government will most probably adopt will be to push legislation with regard to special projects.”

Superintending Engineers appointed for the Mettur project.

* 452 Q.—Diwan Bahadur P. C. ETHIRAJULU NAYUDU : Will the hon. the Law Member, the hon. the Member for Revenue and the hon. the Member for Finance be pleased to state—

(a) who are the Superintending Engineers appointed so far, for the Mettur project ;

(b) which was the headquarters of the Superintending Engineers ;

(c) how often each visited the site of the dam during the period he was in charge ;

(d) what was the period during which each Superintending Engineer was in charge of the Mettur project ; and

(e) how long each Superintending Engineer stayed at the dam headquarters every time he visited ?

A.—(a), (b) & (d) Mr. Stoney was the first Superintending Engineer for the project from the middle of 1925 to April 1926, when he, on transfer as Chief Engineer, was replaced by Mr. Bhaskara Ayyar, who in turn gave place to Mr. Stoney on his reversion in November 1926. The headquarters of this Superintending

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Engineer were first at Coimbatore. They were changed to Erode in the middle of 1926 and will continue there till quarters at Mettur are ready.

A second Superintending Engineer for the project was appointed in November 1926 for the charge of the canal system with headquarters at Tanjore and Mr. Bhaskara Ayyar held the post till February 1927. He has been replaced by Mr. Hart.

Mr. Roberts has been appointed Superintending Engineer in charge of machinery for the project, and has held the post since January 1927. His headquarters are at Mettur.

(c) & (e) The Government have no precise information.

Superintending Engineers appointed for the Mettur project.

* 453 Q.—Mr. B. RAMACHANDRA REDDI : Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(a) the names of the Superintending Engineers appointed so far, for the Mettur project;

(b) which was the headquarters of the Superintending Engineers;

(c) how often every one of them visited the site of the dam during the period he was in charge;

(d) what was the period during which each Superintending Engineer was in charge of the Mettur project; and

(e) how long each Superintending Engineer stayed at the dam headquarters every time it was visited?

A.—The attention of the hon. Member is invited to the answer to question No. 452.

Diwan Bahadur P. C. ETHIRAJULU NAYUDU :—“ Sir, how many Superintending Engineers are employed on this project? ”

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—“ The list is given, Sir.”

Mr. B. RAMACHANDRA REDDI :—“ May I know the distance between Erode and the dam site, Sir? ”

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—“ Notice, Sir.”

Mr. B. RAMACHANDRA REDDI :—“ May I know when the quarters are likely to be ready? ”

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—“ Notice, Sir.”

Diwan Bahadur P. C. ETHIRAJULU NAYUDU :—“ With reference to clauses (c) and (e) the Government say that they have no precise information. Will the hon. Member call for the information and place it on the table? ”

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—“ Yes, Sir ”

Diwan Bahadur P. C. ETHIRAJULU NAYUDU :—“ It is stated, Sir, that Mr. Roberts has been appointed Superintending Engineer in charge of machinery for the project. Will the Government state why they think it necessary to put a Superintending Engineer in charge of machinery alone for this project? ”

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The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—"The machinery is very expensive and there are numerous items of machinery."

Diwan Bahadur P. C. ETHIRAJULU NAYUDU :—"Is it not enough if an Executive Engineer is put in charge of machinery?"

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—"We have been advised, Sir, that a Superintending Engineer is necessary."

Mr. P. BHAKTAVATSULU NAYUDU :—"What is the nature of the machinery that Mr. Roberts is supposed to be in charge of?"

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—"The nature of that machinery was discussed for about 15 or 20 minutes this morning."

Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR :—"Has this gentleman been appointed in anticipation of the purchase of that machinery?"

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—"Considerable machinery has already been purchased, such as excavators, power-house equipment, drills, boring machines, etc., and there is a great deal of machinery already there. He is also in charge of making specifications for the purchase of the machinery to which advertence has been made. It is anticipated that a full-time man will be required for making these specifications, for corresponding with the necessary authorities and for putting the Government in touch with the ideas underlying the purchase of machinery, and for that purpose the appointment was created."

Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR :—"May I know, if the chief items of machinery has not already been purchased, whether it is not better to have the headquarters for the Superintending Engineer for tools and machinery at Tanjore instead of at Mettur as the excavators already purchased are to be used in Tanjore district?"

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—"That matter will be considered."

Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR :—"Is it not a fact that the original records (Vol. IV of the papers) dealing with the total establishment necessary give the maximum number of two Superintending Engineers for the whole work, one at Mettur and one at Tanjore, and the Inspector-General of Irrigation suggested that if the Chief Engineer was appointed for this work two Superintending Engineers would be unnecessary and that one would be quite sufficient? Were there any particular facts taken into consideration when the number two was increased to three even at this early stage of construction of the dam?"

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—"Yes."

Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR :—"May I know whether the hon. Member can say who advised him that this additional appointment was necessary for, he said that the Government were advised that a third Superintending Engineer was necessary?"

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—"The Chief Engineer, Sir."

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Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR :—" May I know why Mr. Bhaskara Ayyar was sent away from Tanjore and Mr. Hart was put in there? "

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—" Mr. Bhaskara Ayyar was sent away in the course of what may be called official exigencies."

Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR :—" May I have some idea of the official exigencies and public interests? Does he still continue to be a Superintending Engineer? "

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—" He is a Superintending Engineer."

Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR :—" If he still continues to be a Superintending Engineer, if he is still fit to be a Superintending Engineer, in the interests of the public and official exigencies, may we know why he was sent away from Mettur first and from Tanjore later on? "

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—" I would earnestly ask my hon. Friend not to pursue this question of personalities. I would ask my friend not to pursue the question as to why one particular gentleman was removed from a particular place. My hon. Friend may be perfectly satisfied that before all these changes are made, Government bestows its mind on the matter, and I may say that there is absolutely no reflection upon the very high character and engineering equipment of Mr. Bhaskara Ayyar."

Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR :—" Exactly Sir, I have given some reasons as to why he was transferred from Mettur by means of another question but now taking Tanjore into consideration, being aware of the fact that there is absolutely nothing against his capacity, may we know why for the simple work of looking after the canal system, acquisition and other preliminary things, he could not be retained there but was sent away after a short stay? "

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—" With great respect, Sir, as I have already said in answer to a previous question, Mr. Swaminatha Ayyar who was concerned with the Toladur project was coming there to take charge of the canal system. Mr. Hart was there temporarily and Mr. Bhaskara Ayyar was sent elsewhere. I would again request my friend not to ask as to why A is brought to a particular place and B is sent to a particular place."

Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR :—" I am afraid, Sir, I must say that so far as the other officers are concerned, they might have been transferred for very good reasons; but all that I say is why Bhaskara Ayyar, unless it was for confidential reasons, should have been . . ."

The hon. Mr. T. E. MOIR :—" On a point of order, Sir. Is it correct to refer to an officer without adding the word ' Mr. ' before the name? "

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" No point of order can arise on questions. Whether a Member is to affix the word ' Mr. ' to a name is really not a point of order, but the hon. Member Venkataramana Ayyangar will be pleased to add the word ' Mr. ' whenever he refers to officers."

Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR :—" If I erred, I apologize, Sir. I am sorry I made the mistake. It was merely a slip but I shall prefix

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'Mr.' for every name that I may refer to hereafter. So far as Mr. Bhaskara Ayyar is concerned, I meant nothing at all against him. I shall emphasize upon 'Mr.' hereafter.

"My only point is whether Government can give us some reasons, now that they have admitted that Mr. Swaminatha Ayyar is coming, now that they have admitted that Mr. Bhaskara Ayyar was there till recently, why Mr. Bhaskara Ayyar was sent away and Mr. Hart put in his place just for a few days. Was it to create a vacancy for Mr. Hart by sending away Mr. Bhaskara Ayyar, till Mr. Swaminatha Ayyar came there?"

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—"I am sorry I have to say so, but I must decline to answer the question, in public interests."

Mr. S. ARPUDASWAMI UDAYAR :—"Considering that there seems to be no finality about the head-works, about starting the work, may I ask the hon. the Law Member what is the necessity for stocking machinery and appointing a highly paid officer to be in charge of the machinery?"

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—"That question has been discussed, Sir, for 45 minutes now."

Mr. S. MUTTAYYA MUDALIYAR :—"May I ask the hon. the Law Member whether, considering that in the construction of this dam a gentleman acquainted with the work is desirable, it is advisable to go on changing the gentlemen in charge once in six months or a year?"

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—"The hon. Member may be satisfied that Government have very prominently in their mind the necessity for continuity of personnel in a work of this character."

Mr. S. MUTTAYYA MUDALIYAR :—"May I ask, Sir, why three Superintending Engineers had to be changed in the course of a year and a half?"

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—"For exigencies of public service."

Rao Bahadur C. S. RATNASABAPATI MUDALIYAR :—"May I know, Sir, if Mr. Stoney specially desired to be posted to be in charge of the Mettur dam?"

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—"I must decline to answer that question, Sir."

Rao Bahadur C. S. RATNASABAPATI MUDALIYAR :—"May I know whether Mr. Stoney was ever in charge of the construction of any dam?"

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—"Excepting two or three officers, nobody in the Madras Presidency has been in charge of big projects because Government have not till recently started any big schemes."

Rao Bahadur C. S. RATNASABAPATI MUDALIYAR :—"May I know, Sir, why those three Engineers referred to could not be posted to be in charge of this scheme?"

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—"The matter will be considered."

Mr. S. MUTTAYYA MUDALIYAR :—"May I ask the hon. the Law Member, in view of the answer he has given that three gentlemen were changed owing to exigencies of public service, if efficiency of service is to be subordinated to exigencies of service?"

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The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—" They are always competing matters, Sir ; but very often exigencies of service also demand continuity of personnel as far as possible."

Mr. S. MUTTAYYA MUDALIYAR :—" Considering that this is the biggest dam in the world costing about more than six crores, are you going to consider the efficiency of the officers more than exigencies of public service?" a.m.

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—" Quite so."

Mr. P. BHAKTAVATSULU NAYUDU :—" I heard the Law Member say that with the exception of two men, Mr. Stoney was the next fit man for the place."

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—" I did not say so, Sir."

Mr. P. BHAKTAVATSULU NAYUDU :—" May I know from the hon. the Law Member if there is any Indian officer who is competent to hold the place in the place of Mr. Stoney, and if so, why his claims were not considered."

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—" As hon. Members know there are questions of seniority, there are questions of efficiency and questions of exigencies of public service. All these things are borne in mind by Government in the posting of officers."

Proposed construction of a club near the headquarters of the Mettur dam.

* 454 Q.—Diwan Bahadur P. C. ETHIRAJULU NAYUDU : Will the hon. the Law Member, the hon. the Member for Revenue and the hon. the Member for Finance be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that a club is contemplated to be built at the site of the headquarters of the Mettur dam ;

(b) whether it is a fact that a refrigerator has been purchased at a cost of Rs. 5,000 for making ice ; and

(c) under what item of expenditure does this come in the estimates for the Mettur project ?

A.—(a) Yes.

(b) Yes. The actual cost of the plant was Rs. 4,840.

(c) The plant was purchased under the orders of the Chief Engineer as part of the equipment for the hospital at Mettur. The expenditure has been charged to the provision in the Project estimate for the purpose.

Diwan Bahadur P. C. ETHIRAJULU NAYUDU :—" May I ask the hon. the Law Member what is the necessity for a club at Mettur ? "

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—" As there are a large number of officers, European and Indian, and as it is a place where there is no recreation, it will serve as a common place for them to meet."

Diwan Bahadur P. C. ETHIRAJULU NAYUDU :—" At public cost ? "

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—" Even then, I would strongly suggest that in matters of this kind where more than 150 or 200 people are brought together at a particular place, there should be some sort of common place for them to meet."

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Diwan Bahadur P. C. ETHIRAJULU NAYUDU :—" May I ask the hon. the Revenue Member whether he is going to give any clubs for the hard-working Revenue officers of the district ? "

Mr. B. RAMACHANDRA REDDI :—" May I know with reference to clause (c) whether such refrigerators are provided in other hospitals, even in the Presidency hospital ? "

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—" I think so. "

Diwan Bahadur P. C. ETHIRAJULU NAYUDU :—" How many ? "

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—" My hon. Colleague the Minister for Medicine and Public Health may probably be able to answer that. "

Diwan Bahadur P. C. ETHIRAJULU NAYUDU :—" May I know from the hon. the Minister for Public Health how many hospitals in this Presidency have been provided with refrigerators ? "

Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR :—" Notice. "

Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR :—" May I know whether any specific conditions have been laid down before this club had been sanctioned that there should be no racial distinction and that European and Indian officers would be permitted to be members. "

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—" I hope so. "

Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR :—" May I know, Sir, whether any condition has been laid down by Government before any sanction was given ? "

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—" Notice, Sir. "

Rao Bahadur C. S. RATNASABAPATI MUDALIYAR :—" May I know, Sir, if the cost of this club building is included in the estimates for the Mettur project ? "

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—" It will be, Sir. "

Mr. S. SATYAMURTI :—" With regard to clauses (b) and (c) of question 454, may I ask the hon. the Law Member, when this hospital is going to be constructed ? "

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—" There is a dispensary there already and the hospital is not yet started. "

Mr. S. SATYAMURTI :—" May I ask therefore whether it is the practice of the departments under the control of the hon. the Law Member to buy refrigerators for making ice, I suppose, before the hospital is ready, and when it is asked why a refrigerator is bought, is he to treat these questions lightly ? Why is the refrigerator bought, for a hospital the construction of which is not yet begun ? Is it the way to spend public money ? "

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—" This was, as it is evident from the answer, purchased by the Chief Engineer. The question as to why and how it was purchased is under the consideration of Government. "

Mr. S. SATYAMURTI :—" May I ask if the Chief Engineer has been asked for an explanation on this matter and when the explanation is expected and, when it is received, whether the hon. Law Member will place it on the table of this House ? "

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—" Notice, Sir. "

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Rao Bahadur C. S. RATNASABAPATI MUDALIYAR :—" May I ask whether this is intended exclusively for the use of the hospital or to the benefit of the club also, Sir."

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—" It is not intended to be used for the benefit of the club."

Diwan Bahadur P. C. ETHIRAJULU NAYUDU :—" What is the total cost of the equipment of this hospital ? "

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—" Notice, Sir."

Mr. S. SATYAMURTI :—" May I know what the refrigerator is doing now ? Is it out of order ? "

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—" Notice, Sir. I do not know what it is doing. I dare say it is there."

Mr. S. SATYAMURTI :—" It is open to the hon. Member to say, ' No.' Still, may I ask him, whether when questions of this kind are put, he is to stretch his hands and say, ' no ', ' it ought to be so and so, ' and so on ? He is here paid for doing his duties. Knowing this, he says, I do not know, etc. Notice was given of this question as early as 23rd February 1927. May I ask him, as a man of public business, as a man of public affairs, whether he does not know anything about the refrigerator for making ice for a hospital which has not yet been begun and what is being done with the refrigerator ; is it going to pieces—I trust it is not going to pieces ? "

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—" If the Engineering department buys machinery which is going to pieces, it ought not to be worth its salt. My hon. Friend has got indignant over my shortcomings. All I can say is, that we have been told that a refrigerator has been purchased. It is there and I do not know what it is doing and there was no question put to me as to what it is doing and therefore no shortcoming can be ascribed to me for not getting information that was not called for."

Mr. S. SATYAMURTI :—" May I ask why the hon. the Law Member having known that the refrigerator has been purchased for the purpose of making ice for a hospital, still in posse, not yet in existence, why, to this moment, he has made no inquiries whatever, why it was bought, for what purpose it was bought, and what it is doing ? "

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—" I think my hon. Friend did not hear my previous answer, or having heard it, has ignored it. I have said in answer to a previous question that we have inquired of the Chief Engineer why such a purchase has been made and we are awaiting information on that matter."

Mr. S. SATYAMURTI :—" And what will Government do in that matter ? "

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—" It is yet in the future. In the circumstances, it appears to me that the charge is not justified."

Mr. S. SATYAMURTI :—" May I know the date on which the Government sent the letter to the Chief Engineer ? "

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—" About three weeks ago."

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Mr. S. SATYAMURTI :—“ May I know why the Chief Engineer has taken three weeks time to explain why a refrigerator was purchased for a hospital which is going to come into existence hereafter ? ”

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—“ I deprecate the casting of aspersions before we become aware of the facts. I understand that the Chief Engineer has sent in his explanation. Government have not dealt with the explanation.”

Mr. S. SATYAMURTI :—“ May I know what the explanation is ? ”

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—“ No.”

Mr. S. SATYAMURTI :—“ What is the meaning of ‘ No ’. Has the hon. Member received it or not ? ”

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—“ We have been told that he has sent it and before remarks are made on it, I cannot answer the question.”

Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR :—“ May I know whether the hon. the Law Member has noted that at the time of the out under Irrigation, I clearly stated that this had been purchased and had gone already out of order ? ”

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—“ That has been noted. If that is so, it is a very unfortunate affair. All I can say is that Government will pay special attention to what has fallen from my hon. Friend and verify the statement.”

Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR :—“ Has the attention of the Chief Engineer been called as to whether my information was correct or not ? ”

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—“ The Chief Engineer is sufficiently interested in the Mettur project to read this debate and I may also say that my hon. Friend's statement now made that the machine has been purchased and has gone out of order, will be brought prominently to the notice of the Chief Engineer.”

Mr. G. HARISARVOTTAMA RAO :—“ Referring to the formation of a club, the hon. the Law Member was pleased to say that officers require recreation and therefore this club was thought of. May I know from the hon. the Law Member whether he has any idea of providing recreation for the large number of labourers that may be employed upon this work ? ”

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—“ That matter will also be considered.”

Diwan Bahadur P. C. ETHIRAJULU NAYUDU :—“ May I ask the hon. Law Member, whether this club has been constructed ? ”

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—“ It has not yet been constructed, Sir.”

Diwan Bahadur P. C. ETHIRAJULU NAYUDU :—“ May I know what is the estimated cost of it ? ”

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—“ Notice.”

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Diwan Bahadur P. C. ETHIRAJULU NAYUDU :—“ May I ask whether this refrigerator is meant for the club ? ”

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—“ The club has not yet come into existence. ”

Diwan Bahadur P. C. ETHIRAJULU NAYUDU :—“ How has a refrigerator been purchased for a hospital which has not come into existence ? That is my anxiety. ”

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—“ In regard to that anxiety, I have stated that we shall inquire into that matter. ”

Rao Bahadur C. S. RATNASABAPATI MUDALIYAR :—“ The hon. the Law Member has stated that neither the club nor the hospital has yet been started. Then may I know how the refrigerator has gone out of order, Sir ? ”

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—“ The hon. Member from Coimbatore is proceeding on the information supplied to Government by another hon. Member from Coimbatore. I am not aware it has gone out of order, but acting on the information furnished by the other hon. Member from Coimbatore Government will make inquiries in the matter. It is impossible to answer hypothetical questions put by the Member on the information furnished by another hon. Member. ”

Mr. P. BHAKTAVATSULU NAYUDU :—“ Will the hon. Member be pleased to state if the Chief Engineer has got the power to purchase machines without the sanction of Government or previous notice to them ? ”

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—“ He has. ”

Proposed construction of a club near the headquarters of the Mettur dam.

* 455 Q.—Mr. B. RAMACHANDRA REDDI : Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that a club is contemplated to be built at the site of the headquarters of the Mettur dam ;

(b) whether it is a fact that a refrigerator has been purchased at a cost of Rs. 5,000 for manufacturing ice ; and

(c) if so, under what item of expenditure this comes in the Mettur project estimates ?

A.—The attention of the hon. Member is invited to the answer to question No. 454.

Construction of canals in connexion with the Mettur project.

* 456 Q.—Diwan Bahadur P. C. ETHIRAJULU NAYUDU : Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that no detailed estimates have been made regarding the construction of canals connected with the Mettur project and that only an approximate amount has been included in the total estimate ;

(b) whether at least the sites where the subsidiary canals branch off from the main Grand Anicut canal have been decided upon, or whether it is in course of investigation ;

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(c) if the sites have been decided upon, what those sites are ; and
 (d) what is the total establishment working in connexion with the Mettur project—

- (i) on the engineering side ;
 (ii) on the revenue side ?

A.—(a) The alignment of the main canal in the project and the several works connected therewith has been decided upon. Detailed estimates for these were prepared as early as 1910, and they are now being revised with reference to the present conditions ; several of the works are under execution.

(b) & (c) The distributaries of the Vadavar system have been investigated in detail while those of the Grand Anicut canal have been only roughly designed. The precise alignment of the branches and distributaries will be undertaken by a special subdivision which has recently been formed.

(d) It is presumed that the hon. Member refers only to the executive staff and not to the office establishment employed under them. The establishment employed on the project is as follows :—

Engineer staff.

Superintending engineers	...	...	3
Executive engineers	...	...	7
Assistant engineers	...	...	20
Upper subordinates	...	...	56

Revenue establishment.

Collector on special duty	...	...	1
Deputy Collectors	...	...	10
Revenue Inspectors	...	...	22

Construction of canals in connexion with the Mettur project.

* 457 Q.—Mr. B. RAMACHANDRA REDDI : Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that no detailed estimates have been made for the construction of canals and that only an approximate amount has been included in the total estimates for the purpose ;

(b) whether at least the sites where the subsidiary canals branch off from the main Grand Anicut canal have been decided upon or whether it is in course of investigation ; and

(c) if the sites have been decided upon, what those sites are ?

A.—The attention of the hon. Member is invited to the answer to clauses

(a) to (c) of Question No. 456.

Establishment in connexion with the Mettur project.

* 458 Q.—Mr. B. RAMACHANDRA REDDI : Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state what is the total establishment working in connexion with the Mettur project—

- (a) on the Engineer's side ;
 (b) on the Revenue side ?

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A.—The attention of the hon. Member is drawn to the answer to clause (d) of Question No. 456.

Mr. B. RAMACHANDRA REDDI :—" May I know whether all these works are going to be undertaken simultaneously and all these officers are going to be posted there ? "

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—" Yes."

Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR :—" As regards staff, may I ask whether there is any idea of comparing the original list fixed upon with the numbers that are fixed now ? "

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—" Yes."

Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR :—" May I invite the attention of the hon. Law Member to the statement at page 7 of volume IV of the papers relating to the Mettur project that the maximum number of Assistant Engineers is only eleven for the whole work including headworks and canals."

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—" I shall note that."

Borings for finding the bed-rock levels regarding the new site of the Mettur dam.

* 459 Q.—Diwan Bahadur P. C. ETHIRAJULU NAYUDU: Will the hon. the Law Member, the hon. the Member for Revenue and the hon. the Member for Finance be pleased to state—

(a) whether any borings have been made to find the bed-rock level in connexion with the new site of the works for the Mettur dam; and

(b) whether it is because experts are of opinion that the borings will not be very different from what they were found to be in the old site?

A.—(a) & (b) Borings are being made at the new site also.

Borings for finding the bed-rock levels regarding the new site of the Mettur dam.

* 460 Q.—Mr. B. RAMACHANDRA REDDI: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether any borings have been taken to find the bed-rock level in connexion with the new head work site for the Mettur dam;

(b) if not, whether there is a single instance where such a large project was being initiated without even the borings being taken; and

(c) whether experts are of opinion that the borings will not be very different from what they were found to be in the old site?

A.—(a) The attention of the hon. Member is invited to the answer to Question No. 459.

(b) & (c) The questions do not arise.

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Appointment of Colonel Ellis as Chief Engineer, Mettur project.

* 461 Q.—Diwan Bahadur P. C. ETHIRAJULU NAYUDU: Will the hon. the Law Member, the hon. the Member for Revenue and the hon. the Member for Finance be pleased to state whether it is a fact that Colonel Ellis, Retired Engineer, has been invited to take up the place of Chief Engineer, Mettur project, and if so, on what terms?

A.—No.

Method of carrying out the Mettur Project.

* 462 Q.—Diwan Bahadur P. C. ETHIRAJULU NAYUDU: Will the hon. the Law Member, the hon. the Member for Revenue and the hon. the Member for Finance be pleased to state—

(a) what is the system adopted in executing such works as the Mettur Project;

(b) whether it is done departmentally or through contractors; and

(c) whether, if it is to be done through contractors, it is by tender, if so, whether the tender has been advertised for and in what papers?

A.—(a) & (b) The Mettur project is being carried out departmentally, contracts being given only for the supply of materials, and for some of the subsidiary works, e.g., the bridge across the Cauvery below the dam site, and the construction of quarters.

(c) The Government have no detailed information as to the way in which these contracts were placed, but have no reason to suppose that the usual system of advertising for tenders was not adopted.

Method of carrying out the Mettur Project.

* 463 Q.—Mr. B. RAMACHANDRA REDDI: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(a) what the system adopted is in executing such works as are being done with reference to the Mettur Project, whether they are done departmentally or through contractors;

(b) if they are to be done through contractors whether they are by tender; and

(c) if so, how the tender has been advertised and in what newspapers?

A.—The attention of the hon. Member is invited to the answer to Question No. 462.

Mr. B. RAMACHANDRA REDDI:—“ May I know whether tender notices have been issued before works were agreed upon? ”

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR:—“ So far as we are aware the department issues tender notices in respect of works.”

Mr. B. RAMACHANDRA REDDI:—“ In answer to clause (c), it is stated that the Government have no detailed information as to the way in which these contracts were placed, but have no reason to suppose that the usual system of advertising for tenders was not adopted. The answer is in a circumlocutory manner. May I ask for a direct answer.”

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The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—" I take it that the result of the circumlocution is that the process of advertising for tenders were presumably adopted."

Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR :—" May I ask whether the Government will be pleased to find out if already there is a very large number of contracts in which labour has been imported from outside the Presidency and see whether they cannot issue orders to prohibit the ingress of people in view of the bad season in this Presidency ? "

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—" If it is suggested that in the case of local contracts, local labour should be used as far as possible in preference to outside labour, which we think will be of advantage, Government will do so."

Diwan Bahadur M. KRISHNAN NAYAR :—" Having regard to the importance of this matter and the interest taken in it by the several sections of the House, may I request you to take the remaining questions on the Mettur project to-morrow for asking supplemental questions on them ? "

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—" I have no objection, Sir."

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" Since the hon. the Law Member has no objection, the House shall begin from question No. 464^a to-morrow. The usual list also will be issued, but if any portion of the usual list remains unreached, I do not propose to continue it for the next day. I hope hon. Members will so adjust their questions as to finish this list and the usual list."

Mr. G. HARISARVOITAMA RAO :—" They may be taken up and finished 12 noon.
after the usual list of questions is over."

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" I thought it was the wish of the House to take up these questions first."

Mr. G. HARISARVOTTAMA RAO :—" You may do as you think best, Sir."

II

ANNOUNCEMENT REGARDING THE CONSTITUTION OF A LIBRARY COMMITTEE.

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" Hon Members would have noticed that the allotment for books for the Madras Legislative Council Library is Rs. 5,000 for the next year as compared with only Rs. 3,000 for the current year. To ensure the purchase of books which will satisfy all kinds of interests in the House, I have resolved in consultation with the Leaders of the Parties, to constitute a small Committee for the selection of books to the library. The members of Committee so constituted shall be —

Mr. S. Satyamurti,
Mr. P. T. Rajan,

Mr. A. B. Shetty,
Mr. Hearson,

and myself, with the Secretary to the Council acting as Secretary to the Committee."

^a Questions 464-472 included in the List of Questions and Answers for 22nd March 1927 have been incorporated in the Proceedings for 23rd March 1927.

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III

COMMUNICATION TO THE COUNCIL.

The Secretary laid on the table copies of G.O. (†) No. 1902, Revenue, dated 1st November 1926, passing orders on the proposals for the resettlement of the Nilgiri and Malabar Wynaads.

[*Note.*—An asterisk (*) at the commencement of a speech indicates revision by the Member.]

IV

MOTIONS ON THE BUDGET FOR 1927-28.

DEMAND XIII—ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE—*cont.*

Mr. C. S. GOVINDARAJA MUDALIYAR:—"In view of the statement made by the hon. the Law Member that he would take steps to have a Committee constituted as desired by me, I do not propose to move motions Nos. 520(†) and 521(§)."

* Mr. S. SATYAMURTI:—"Sir, I am anxious that my motion should ripen into a question, and so I shall very briefly move it. I move

'that the allotment of Rs. 4,80,400 for pay of establishments be reduced by Rs. 100.'

"My object is to discuss the treatment meted out to the Madras Weekly Notes by the High Court. Here is the article, Sir, in the course of which the Editor said something about the promotion of barrister puisne Judges to the position of the Chief Justice. A perusal of the article will convince any unbiassed man that there is nothing in the article which deserves the punishment which the High Court have seen fit to impose upon this journal and its editor. The privilege of reporting judgments of High Courts is an ancient privilege which was enjoyed by any member of the Bar in England so long as he signs the judgment. Later on, with a view to see that official reporters get precedence, the High Court of Madras made a rule that these judgments intended to be published should be approved by the Judges, and the only privilege that these editors have is that their clerks or assistants are allowed access to the records of the High Court's judgments which are allowed to be reported. They have been getting these judgments in this way. One fine morning, after this article was published, the Editor of the *Madras Weekly Notes* gets a letter from the Registrar saying 'your privileges are withdrawn.' He was not asked to show cause why they should be withdrawn. He knew nothing about it until the order came. It seems to me surprising, Sir, that the highest Court of Justice, which is asked every day to upset the orders made by the subordinate judiciary, civil and criminal, on the ground that they have gone against the fundamental maxim of justice, namely, that even a murderer, deserves to be heard before he is hanged, should have, in a matter like this, exhibited such temper as

† Placed on the Editors' Table.

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| (†) 520 Mr. C. S. GOVINDARAJA MUDALIYAR:— | | |
| To reduce allotment of Rs. 68,400 for pay of officers by | | Rs. 100 |
| (To discuss the accumulation of arrears in the High Court work and the necessity for appointment of a committee composed of non-official elected Members of the Council to go into the question with a view to suggest remedies.) | | |
| (§) 521 Mr. C. S. GOVINDARAJA MUDALIYAR:— | | |
| To reduce the allotment of Rs. 68,400 for pay of officers by | | 12,000 |
| (To discuss the desirability of continuing the office of Official Referee any longer.) | | |

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[Mr. S. Satyamurti]

to punish a man without giving him a chance of saying 'yes' or 'no' in his defence. Moreover, I may add that the best professional opinion in Madras as represented by the Madras High Court Vakils' Association who have passed a resolution condemning this action of the High Court, is behind the Editor of the *Madras Weekly Notes* in the article he wrote. It is not necessary that every one of us should associate ourselves with every word in that article. There are different ways of saying the same thing, but all of us feel that there is nothing in the article which deserves this unmerited and unjust punishment, meted out in a huff, by the hon. the Judges. They asked that the Editor of the *Madras Weekly Notes* should apologise, but he said that he had nothing to apologise for, and so the matter has come up before this House. I do put it to my hon. Friend the Law Member that no man, not even the High Court, certainly not the Law Member, is the worse for criticism. Everybody is the better for criticism and, so long as that criticism is not *mala fide* and so long as it is *bona fide*, even if it indulges in somewhat strong language, I take it that human nature requires that you ought not to take a very serious view of such a matter. I trust that this hon. House will take the view that the Judges have acted wrongly in punishing a man without hearing him in his own defence, that in any case there is nothing worthy of punishment, and thirdly that the hon. the Judges have not set a right course of conduct for themselves or those who have to administer justice under them."

* The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—" Mr. President, Sir, the first observation that I desire to make arising out of the speech made by the hon. and learned Member for the University is that I agree with him to this extent that no Member of this House or nobody else is exempt from criticism, always provided, as he was careful to add, that that criticism was neither *mala fide* nor wholly malicious as some criticisms are. Now, in regard to this particular journal, the *Madras Weekly Notes*, I may say that Government as such have no responsibility in this matter. With official reporting under the Indian Law Reports Act that the Government have certain responsibilities. In regard to non-official reports like the *Law Times* and other journals in England and the *Madras Weekly Notes* and other journals in Madras—Government as such have no cognisance of them and have nothing to do with them, officially or in any other manner. However, what has really happened is that the High Court as a matter of convention and of practice, and not otherwise, have been giving to all Law Journals certain privileges such as the privilege of perusing records and of getting printed copies of judgments. These privileges are allowed by the High Court as a matter of convention, not under any rule of the High Court or under any order of the Government, but merely as a matter of courtesy extended by the High Court to certain specific law journals. Now, it seems to me, Sir, that we in this House will be acting somewhat beyond our usual jurisdiction if we interfere in a matter involving the exchange of courtesies. I am anxious to emphasise that aspect of the matter, that the privilege of getting copies of judgment and perusing records, etc., is wholly a matter of courtesy, wholly a matter of convention extended by the High Court to the editors of these particular law journals. How we are entitled, how we should be justified even assuming for a moment that we differ from the hon. the Judges of the High Court as to the expediency or propriety of their having acted in a particular manner in dealing with this and how we can in this House by a vote tell the High Court that they should extend their courtesy

[Sir C. P. Ramaswami Ayyar] [22nd March 1927]

to A and should not have withheld it from B, is a matter which I cannot follow. Apart from that, the position is this. The High Court has considered certain articles for which the Editor of the *Madras Weekly Notes* made himself responsible. I think my hon. Friend was careful enough to say that all persons could not unanimously associate themselves with all the opinions expressed therein. As a matter of fact, there are one or two sentences—I do not propose to read those sentences—which are couched (I do not want to use strong language) in bad taste. There is no doubt about it that any impartial reader of these articles must come to the conclusion that those passages are couched in bad taste, very bad taste I should say. On that, the High Court have said ‘We shall not allow this journal the courtesy of getting these judgments.’ Merely as a matter of advantages and disadvantages, the editor of the journal loses nothing, as my hon. Friend knows, because there are many law journals which do not enjoy that benefit and which merely get copies of judgments from the practitioners or the parties and publish them in their journals. If the High Court in pursuance of the authority vested in them not under any statute or order of the Government but merely as a matter of give and take, of concession and courtesy, say that they will not allow the editor to copy judgments, it is a matter, I submit, in which this Council cannot very well enter.”

* Diwan Bahadur M. KRISHNAN NAYAR :—“ Sir, I am glad that my hon. Friend the Law Member stated, and knowing him as I do I did not expect a different statement from him, that there could be no objection whatever to any criticism in the law journal of the ways of the High Court, either regarding the administration or the judgments themselves. My friend also stated that there were one or two sentences in the article in question which were couched in bad taste. I read the offending article very carefully. It is a matter of opinion; it may be that there are sentences which are conceived in bad taste or it may be that they are not. However, we are not concerned with that. It seems to me, Sir, that that part of the High Court’s action to which exception may be taken is this, that they granted a privilege to the editor in question and withdrew that privilege, I presume, on account of this article, without giving him an opportunity of explaining himself.”

* The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—“ All that I am saying is that we do not know whether any opportunity for explanation was given, whether a written explanation was asked for or an oral explanation was taken.”

* Mr. S. SAIYAMURTI :—“ I know, Sir, no opportunity was given to the editor to explain himself before the order was passed.”

* Diwan Bahadur M. KRISHNAN NAYAR :—“ I take it, Sir, on the authority of my hon. Friend, the Member for the University, that no opportunity was given. I believe it, so long as my friend the Member for the University asserts that no opportunity was given to the editor before the order was passed. My friend stated that no opportunity was given to the editor to explain his conduct, and my friend the Law Member was not in a position to contradict that statement. So that, I may take it that no opportunity was given.

“ That, I submit, is the action of the High Court which exposes itself to criticism. In fact, as the highest court in the land, as the palladium of

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justice it should always give an opportunity to every one to defend oneself. It is against natural justice itself, apart from any statutory law, to condemn any person without giving him an opportunity to defend himself. That is the elementary principle of law on which the High Court, day after day and hour after hour, acts, though it has not been acted upon in this matter. So that, I submit, it is an action which may be taken note of by this House. Again, so far as the disciplinary powers of the High Court over this journal are concerned it would have been better for the High Court to continue the privilege instead of taking it away altogether. For, now that the privilege has been taken away, it has opportunities of reporting judgments and commenting upon them even without facilities being given. There are numerous ways of getting and reporting judgments as a matter of right by paying for certified copies. . . ."

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—"The time allotted for the demand having expired I shall put the question to the House. The question is to reduce the allotment of Rs. 4,80,400 for establishments by Rs. 100."

The motion was put and declared lost.

A poll was demanded and the House divided thus :

Ayes.

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|--|---|
| 1. Mr. A. B. Shetty. | 28. Mr. C. Ramasamayajulu |
| 2. " T. M. Narayanaswami Pillai. | 29. " P. Bhaktavatsulu Nayudu. |
| 3. " C. R. Parthasarathi Ayyangar. | 30. Sriman Biswanath Das Mahasayo. |
| 4. " N. Siva Rao | 31. Mr. R. Srinivasa Ayyangar. |
| 5. " T. C. Srinivasa Ayyangar. | 32. " Syed Ibrahim Sahib. |
| 6. " Chavadi K. Subrahmanya Pillai. | 33. " B. Ramachandra Reddi. |
| 7. " S. V. Vanavudai Goundar. | 34. " L. K. Tulasiram. |
| 8. " S. Arpudaswami Udayar. | 35. " K. R. Karant. |
| 9. " Sami Venkatachalam Chetti. | 36. " K. Krishnaswami Nayakar. |
| 10. " S. Satyamurti. | 37. " K. Madhavan Nayar. |
| 11. " C. V. Venkataramana Ayyangar. | 38. " B. Venkataratnam |
| 12. " T. Adinarayana Chettiyar. | 39. " M. A. Manikkavelu Nayakar. |
| 13. " P. Anjaneyulu. | 40. Rao Bahadur C. S. Ratnasabapati Mudaliyar. |
| 14. " S. Muttayya Mudaliyar. | 41. Diwan Bahadur M. Krishnan Nayar. |
| 15. " P. C. Venkatapati Raju. | 42. Khan Bahadur S. K. Abdul Razak Sahib Bahadur. |
| 16. " C. S. Govindaraja Mudaliyar. | 43. Mr. P. T. Rajan. |
| 17. " G. Harisarvottama Rao. | 44. " T. K. Chidambaranatha Mudaliyar. |
| 18. " C. N. Muthuranga Mudaliyar. | 45. Diwan Bahadur P. C. Ethirajulu Nayudu. |
| 19. Abdul Hamid Khan Sahib Bahadur. | 46. Muhammad Khadir Mohidin Sahib Bahadur. |
| 20. Mr. K. V. R. Swami. | 47. Diwan Bahadur S. Kumaraswami Reddiyar. |
| 21. " K. P. V. S. Muhammad Meera Ravuttar. | 48. Rao Bahadur B. Muniswami Nayudu. |
| 22. " D. Narayana Raju. | 49. Mr. K. Ramaabandra Padayachi. |
| 23. " K. Uppi Sahib. | 50. " K. Sarbha Reddi. |
| 24. " C. Marudavanam Pillai. | 51. Rao Bahadur K. Sitarama Reddi. |
| 25. " J. A. Saldanha. | |
| 26. " C. Obi Reddi. | |
| 27. " U. Ramaswami Ayyar. | |

Noes.

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|---|---|
| 1. The hon. Sir C. P. Ramaswami Ayyar. | 10. Mr. P. L. Moore. |
| 2. " Mr. N. E. Marjoribanks. | 11. " Gnanavaram Pillai. |
| 3. " Khan Bahadur Muhammad Usman Sahib Bahadur. | 12. " G. T. Boag. |
| 4. " Mr. T. E. Moir. | 13. " V. Pandrang Row. |
| 5. " Diwan Bahadur K. N. Arogyaswami Mudaliyar. | 14. " S. H. Slater. |
| 6. " Mr. A. Ranganatha Mudaliyar. | 15. " C. B. Cotterell. |
| 7. " Dr. P. Subbarayan. | 16. Khan Bahadur Muhammad Basul-ul-Jah Sahib Bahadur. |
| 8. Mr. T. R. Venkatarama Sastriyar. | 17. Mr. Wahab Sahib. |
| 9. " J. F. Hall. | 18. " Abbas Ali Khan Bahadur. |
| | 19. " H. B. Ari Gowder. |

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Noes—cont.

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| 20. Mr. J. Bheemayya. | 31. Mr. G. B. Premayya. |
| 21. " J. A. Davis. | 32. Syed Tajudin Sahib Bahadur. |
| 22. Rao Sahib M. Hampayya. | 33. Swami A. S. Sahajanandam. |
| 23. Mr. M. Nagan Gowda. | 34. Rao Sahib R. Srinivasan. |
| 24. Subadar Major S. A. Nanjappa Bahadur. | 35. Mr. H. F. P. Hearson. |
| 25. Rao Bahadur O. M. Nambutripad. | 36. " C. R. T. Congreve. |
| 26. Mr. Gangadara Siva. | 37. " J. Mackenzi Smith. |
| 27. " S. Subrahmanya Moopanar. | 38. " O. E. Wood. |
| 28. " S. Venkayya. | 39. Rao Sahib L. C. Guruswami. |
| 29. " K. Krishnan. | 40. Mr. V. I. Muniswami Pillai. |
| 30. " K. Abdul Hye Sahib | 41. Raja of Ramnad. |

Ayes 51. Noes 41.

The motion was carried.

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—"I now put the demand to the vote of the House. The question is--

'that Government be granted a sum not exceeding 84.38 lakhs minus Rs. 200 under Demand XIII—Administration of Justice.' "

The motion as put by the Chair was carried.

DEMAND XIV—JAILS.

The hon. Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—"On the recommendation of His Excellency the Governor, I move

'that the Government be granted a sum not exceeding 29.45 lakhs for Jails.'

* Mr. S. SATYAMURTI :—"I rise to move

'to reduce the allotment of Rs. 34,600 for Superintendence by Rs. 100'

to discuss the question of the better administration of jails and the better treatment of convicts.

(Mr. J. A. Saldanha took the chair.)

"I grant that, so long as human society does not become perfect, and so long as there are criminals amongst us, it is necessary that there should be jails wherein to confine all these unfortunate men, women and children, to send them back into the world in a right way, fit to take their rightful places in the world. Now, Mr. Chairman, may I suggest that the object of any Government should be that these jails should not be converted into purgatories or living hells, but should be places from which even hardened criminals and others may go forth, the better, if possible, for the stay in those jails. I take it, Mr. Chairman, that my hon. Friend the Home Member concedes that the object of these jails is not to terrorise, not to show vindictiveness against those unfortunate people, but to make them realise, before they become irredeemable, their faults so that they may go back and take their proper places in society. If that is the object, Sir, I submit a very heavy responsibility rests on the shoulders of my hon. Friend the Home Member. Roughly, Mr. Chairman, about 20,000 people are imprisoned in these jails throughout the year. And the responsibility for the health, welfare, the morals and the reformation of these people is very great. I feel, Sir, that Government have not realised their responsibility in these matters. They have not given effect to those humane recommendations of all jail reformers, and it is because they have not done so that I have tabled this Motion. First, Sir, take the question of food. I know they are kept in good health and are

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[Mr. S. Satyamurti]

given food according to the medical authorities. But I find a statement in the administration report of last year that dietary charges were reduced. I was sorry to read that. I should like to have explanation why the food has been reduced. Moreover, the barbarous punishment of execution still goes on in our jails. I realize that the hon. Home Member is not responsible, because the orders are passed by other people. But still, on the grant of jails, I want to invite the Home Member's attention to the fact that if our province is civilized, hanging, which is a primitive form of punishment which follows the principle of an eye for an eye and tooth for a tooth, it is a pity that hanging should still go on here. Again provision is made for the imprisonment of civil prisoners which is again a barbarous and anti-deluvian form of punishment, which is not justified by modern opinion on this matter. Inside the jails themselves, and this is the main matter on which I desire to concentrate, there are not sufficient reformatory influences. To the extent to which an outsider can judge, they are places where criminals tend to become hardened criminals. Not the less important is the fact that those who go there for temporary aberrations from right conduct tend to become criminals. The institution of non-official visitors is a good institution, but it is surrounded by restrictions. The men appointed are often so docile, so willing to please the Government and so anxious not to displease the Government that we do not take the best we can out of the system of non-official visitors. Moreover, there is the almost unhuman system of jail punishments which are inflicted with systematic regularity which converts these prisoners into clever fellows who want to dodge the warders or bribe them for not punishing. The system of jail punishments is barbarous and more than that, the system of having convict warders tends to demoralize the whole atmosphere. These who are given power to control the rest of their kind become myrmidons of the powers that be and therefore it happens that it is vice which is rewarded and virtue which is punished in our jails. I would ask my hon. Friend why the Members of the Legislative Council in districts like Coimbatore, North Arcot and Trichinopoly where there are central jails should not be made non-official visitors to these jails. Why should they not visit them as and when they pleased and why should the non-official visitors be allowed to visit normally only after giving notice, so that everything is made to order, when the food is good, the clothes are very neat and the premises as a whole give a festive appearance, so that non-officials may go and come and say that all can go and stay there?

"Then, I may say this, Mr. Chairman, that while certain things like tobacco are prohibited from being brought into jails there is a wrong system almost perfected into a machine by which for the payment of so many rupees, annas or pîs, contraband articles are regularly sold inside the jails, and the jails are honeycombed with corruption, and if the Government does not know it, the Government does not know anything. 12-30 p.m.

"Then, there is a provision under which convicts are sometimes asked to go about naked. I do not know what ideas of civilization other nations have in this matter. Speaking as a Hindu and as an Indian, I may say that nothing is more repugnant to the sense of a human being here than being asked to appear, in public, naked.

"Then, there are a few State prisoners. I should like to know why these State prisoners are there, and how they are treated. Again, I am told,

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Mr. Chairman, that a kind of paper called the 'Jail Chronicle', or what is now called 'the Howard Journal' is being supplied to these convicts. I would like to know in what language it is edited, what its contents are and what the object is of that journal.

"Now, I believe, Mr. Chairman, that these 20,000 unfortunate men and women in jails are a great responsibility to my hon. Friend the Home Member and to this House very limitedly though, and even to the extent to which we have to vote this amount, it is a very heavy responsibility. I am afraid, Sir, that our Government have not yet realised what their duty in this matter is. It is because I feel that the Government must look upon these jails as institutions dealing not with machines but with human beings, although most of them are there for no deliberate fault of their own, it is because that I want the human element to be introduced in the administration of jails, it is because that punishments should be suited to the offences, it is because that I want to see the system of convict warders abolished, to see corruption abolished altogether from jails, to see the system of non-official visitors perfected, so that the jails may be like an open book that he who may want may go and see for himself, I move this token motion in the hope that the House will see the imperative need for immediate and whole-hearted prison reform in this province."

* The hon. Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—"Mr. President, Sir, my hon. Friend for the University of Madras has stated in his prefatory remarks that so long as crimes exist, we want jails and that all that he wants is that these places should be converted into reformatories rather than into places where the State takes its vengeance upon the prisoners. I may assure my hon. Friend that the Government entirely agree with the sentiments expressed by him. The old conception regarding jails as places of punishment is being given up, and we now treat our jails as places where prisoners should be subject to a certain amount of reformatory influences. From that point of view, I entirely sympathize with most of the remarks that the hon. Mover has made, and I may assure him that I shall bestow my earnest attention upon them. My hon. Friend says that there is no meaning in the non-official visitors going to see the jails after giving notice. I entirely see the point in the remarks made by my hon. Friend. The Government, of course, wants from non-official visitors a statement of facts as they are; we want to know what is happening in the jails. Therefore, there is no point in giving notice to jail authorities that they will have a visit from the non-official visitors, so that as my hon. Friend said, things may be kept in proper fashion to show them that there is no defect at all. I shall certainly bestow my attention upon this question, and I shall discuss the various aspects of it with the Inspector-General of Prisons when I meet him next.

"With regard to the contraband articles, I think the position is quite different. In the jails what we want to supply is necessities and not luxuries and therefore I am afraid it will not be possible for Government to make these prisoners get all kinds of luxuries.

"With regard to the question of prisoners being asked to go naked (Mr. G. Harisarvottama Rao : Half naked), I do not know whether such a practice exists, and I promise my attention to it. I am sure that the jail administration will derive benefit from the criticisms of the hon. Members of this

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House. I assure my hon. Friend for the University that there is a human element in the administration of our jails. For we remember that most of the inmates of the jails are victims of unfortunate and unfavourable circumstances.

“With regard to what we are doing at present, I may tell this hon. House that we are now trying to follow all that the Indian Jails Committee have recommended. The Committee of the Inspectors-General of Jails inspected some of the jails in the Presidency in 1925 and found that most of the reforms the Indian Jails Committee have recommended were already introduced in the jails in this province. For example, we have separated the ‘casuals’ from the ‘habituals’, the ‘juveniles’ from the ‘adults’. For the segregation of incorrigible ‘habituals’ we have two separate jails, one at Salem and the other at Vizagapatam; we have now opened a Borstal School at Tanjore, and we have extended the provisions of the Madras Children Act throughout the Presidency. Leper prisoners are concentrated and dealt with in a separate block in the Central Jail, Salem, and the mental defectives are concentrated and treated in the District Jail, Palamcottah; there are special wards set apart for advanced tuberculosis prisoners in the Central Jails at Trichinopoly and Bellary and the Government have sanctioned the establishment of a separate tuberculosis jail at Bellary. The Government have also sanctioned the construction of a female prison at Vellore for the segregation and confinement of female prisoners. In accordance with the recommendations of the Jails Committee a ‘Star Class’ of prisoners has been formed. These prisoners are carefully selected from among the ‘casual class’ and segregated as far as possible from the ordinary prisoners in order to prevent contamination. These prisoners are provided with special quarters and enjoy certain privileges such as recreation after lock-up, etc. A special class of prisoners has been created of selected prisoners sentenced to simple imprisonment for whom the ordinary treatment is considered unsuitable on the ground of their education, status and character. The selection for this class is made by the convicting court subject to confirmation by Government.

“In accordance with the recommendations of the Indian Jails Committee, the Government have also sanctioned a system of conditional release of prisoners on the recommendation of Advisory Boards constituted for each jail. In regard to matters connected with reformatory influences in prison such as interviews, letters, education, religious and moral instruction in jails and libraries, we have generally adopted the recommendations of the Jail Industries Committee contained in Chapter XI of their report. In accordance with the recommendations of the Indian Jails Committee this Government have also sanctioned a system of payment of gratuity to prisoners or of remission in lieu thereof. Careful attention has also been paid to the diet, clothing, bedding, etc., of prisoners. Attention is also paid to buildings, sanitation, conservancy and water-supply in jails. In accordance with the recommendations of the Indian Jails Committee again, a Discharged Prisoners’ Aid Society has been formed in Madras. This Society with a net work of branch societies scattered throughout the Presidency look to the after-care of prisoners discharged from jails. The recommendations of the Jail Industries Committee have generally been accepted and the industries carried on in the jails in this Presidency have been placed on a satisfactory

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basis. As a result of these, the receipts in the manufacturing department have considerably risen. We have not forgotten our obligation to teach the prisoners the three R's, to teach them some industry and to bring them under some kind of moral influence or other, so that, when they go out they may be able honestly to earn their own livelihood. In all these ways, we are trying to introduce a human element in the administration of the jails, as has been pointed out by the hon. Member for the University. I may again assure this House that the criticisms made by the hon. Members will be borne in mind by me in the discharge of my duties."

* Mr. T. ADINARAYANA CHETTI:—"About the administration of jails, the first thing that would occur to any one who knows anything about the conditions obtaining in our province is the sort of people that now get employed there. Sir, we cry for Indianization but in regard to jails we use it not in the usual sense of the word. The sort of people now employed in the jails, especially the class of jailors and deputy jailors, are generally unpassed men absolutely without any desirable qualifications whatsoever. This is reflected again in the soulless nature of the treatment given to the people who have unfortunately to be in jails. Sir, the class of people entertained as warders, practically come from the scum of society with the result that most of the evils and abuses found in jails are traceable in the first place to that class of people, and they wilfully ill-treat the better class of people who have to go to jails. As my hon. Friend for the University has adverted to the fact about the corruption and the regular, systematized sale of contraband goods which is going on in jails, I need only say that his remarks are fully borne out by my experience of jail management. Sir, I would request the hon. the Home Member to see that for the appointments of jailors and deputy jailors, at least people with University qualifications and some character are appointed. Otherwise, there is no hope of ever improving the administration of our jails.

"Sir, the hon. the Home Member said that the prisoners are treated not in a soulless way but probably in a soulful manner. But I think that the soul is either killed when one enters the jail or it flies away at the very thought of the jail. Not only the treatment is bad, but some of the punishments are absolutely inhuman. Sir, even the tasks such as that of oilpressing is one of the things that ought to be abolished, and ragi-grinding as well, considering that the quantity a prisoner has to grind is absolutely much more than what an ordinary well-paid coolie can be expected to do, outside the jails.

"Sir, the hon. Member for the University has adverted to one particular aspect of treatment in jails. I refer to the manner in which they are asked to strip themselves naked. Sir, this is done very often. Probably the hon. the Home Member does not know it. It is done for the purpose of search. Even the Ali brothers had to complain about this treatment. When the Ali brothers with all the all-India support they commanded could be treated like that, you can understand what the lot of the common people in jails would be. Sir, the punishments, apart from the hard tasks which are allotted to them, are very often not such as should be given to decent people, even though they deserve admittedly some sort of punishment. There are, in the Alipuram Jail, prisoners of the community to which the hon. the Home Member belongs, who were subjected to what are called the bell chains.

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Even when one has to answer calls of nature, a whole line of people must have to move about clanging these chains, and release the particular man who is obliged to answer the calls of nature. I asked a question whether bell chains are remnants of the mediæval systems of punishment such as cutting away one's legs, etc., and the then hon. the Home Member said that it was something like it. As regards other matters regarding the treatment of prisoners, I can assure the House and the hon. Home Member that the rules are worked under circumstances which cannot make the administration soulful but to make the jails more and more a soulless place.

"Sir, they are publishing a journal called *Howard Journals*. Our library ¹²⁻⁴⁵ also is getting it. But I would like to know how many prisoners can read ^{p.m.} the journal, how many know the language it is written in and how many can understand, appreciate, much less enjoy it. I want to know, in these circumstances, whether the cost of the journal is worth its utility. The extracts in the journal are always from one of our Anglo-Indian journals in Madras.

"Then, as regards religious teaching, I ask the hon. Member whether all the prisoners belonging to various religious persuasions are given equal treatment. Sometime ago we referred to the Christian bias which was tried to be imported by one of the subordinates in the Madras Penitentiary. In the Vellore Jail, I am told, Christian missionaries are allowed to go and impart religious instruction to the convicts there while other religious preachers are not so encouraged. I may in this connexion say this to the hon. the Home Member: you have got the right to take away the liberty of a prisoner, but you have certainly no right to interfere with his religious persuasion either directly or by subtler methods."

* Mr. G. HARISARVOTTAMA RAO:—"Mr. President, Sir, I can only touch on one or two questions within the time allotted. So far as the industries in the jails are concerned, I see in the budget a provision for 80 cells in the Coimbatore Jail presumably for 200 more prisoners, because some spinning machinery is going to be installed there. The jail industries can never be economically successful. Those who work at such industries are convicts and their labour is forced labour, and there can be no willing participation in it. Therefore, I ask whether there is much wisdom in a proposal like this. I do not want to stand against it, if it is the intention of the Government that they should teach the convicts some trade or profession so that they may be equipped for life when out of jail. There is another aspect of the industry. There are what are called light labour convicts in all the jails. I believe they cannot do any heavy work; and at present, so far as I know, these light labour men are placed upon such work as picking and choosing and things of that kind. I would strongly urge on the attention of the Government the importance of introducing hand-spinning into these jails and making the light labour men spin and weave, so that after they come out of the jail, they may be able to earn some living and get on as best as possible with the physical power that they have in them.

"With reference to other kinds of labour found in jails, I have seen certain industries encouraged there, which are not in after life useful to the convicts; for instance, I should deprecate the development to any large extent of the weaving of woollen carpets of a finer type. It no doubt satisfies the luxurious habits of certain western people who would pay any amount

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of money and buy such rarities but it does not help the convict to eke out his livelihood because such work he does not get generally, and to such work the convicts are forced against their will. I have had experience of it myself, and I can speak with authority. I can say with authority that in the jails, the classification of labour on which men should be employed should be much more carefully done than it is to-day.

“My friends have already referred to the enforced nakedness in jails. I had the misfortune of running with a lunghoti only, during working hours, and I hope that all such customs that obtain in the jails will be given up immediately.

“Then, Sir, I want to sound a note of warning with regard to too much of the civilizing influences in jails. There is a provision of Rs. 11 600 in the budget for sackteam disinfectors and electric lights; and these things are intended more for the benefit of the officials that are residing there, than for the convicts. I am afraid that if, even with regard to the clothes that should be washed, the convict is to have it done for him, the training that is given is a farce. The convict must be able to wash his own clothes. I do not want to be so human as to say that we should find out a machine that would put food into the mouth of a convict. Therefore, I have to warn against too much of civilization creeping into the jails. By all means give them human treatment, give them proper food.

“In the matter of food, I am afraid they do not get sufficient salt. My experience is that the jail food is always based upon what the medical officers theoretically say is necessary for the development of the organism to enable the convict to do his work. But human nature being what it is, the human constitution being what it is, it cannot have the full benefit of the food unless its palate is equally satisfied and therefore small amenities like salt must not be so badly lowered and the convict should not be asked to live on mere physiological rations, rations that satisfy only physiological tests. Rations must satisfy the human as well as physiological tests. Therefore, by all means, improve their food, improve their clothing, improve opportunities for industrial development, improve also their capacities for greater culture, greater morality, but by no means should you improve such luxuries as will make them incompetent when they go outside to carry on the ordinary affairs of life.”

* Mr. K. V. R. SWAMI :—“Sir, I am very much pleased with the speech of the hon. the Home Member, a very hopeful speech indeed, but I do not know how far it will be put into action. Several questions were raised during the last budget debate and the hon. the Home Member did not refer even to one to say that he has rectified matters at least in one particular respect. The first thing that was referred to in the last debate was the question of food. All hon. Members said then with one voice that the food given was insufficient, that the same quantity of food should not be fixed for all persons alike. If the same quantity of food is given to my hon. Friend, I know how he would feel in a week. It is very difficult from outside to find out what the real needs of the men in jail are. I do not say that my hon. Friend or any superior authorities want to be hard on these prisoners, but they have not made such arrangements as would make the life of the prisoner even tolerable. For instance, clothing is not sufficient at all. He is

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given only one piece of cloth for rubbing his body after bath and covering himself during bath. He is expected to have two sets of clothing, but he is always given one set only, for the other set is kept ready for inspection. Of course, there is the Penitentiary here, and my hon. Friend the Home Member would have visited it often or even once. If he had seen it, I think he would realize whether they have got any library worth the name. They have kept some rotten books there. I do not think the hon. the Home Member has been there when food is given. That food will not be touched even by a dog; it is so rotten and so full of sand and pebbles. I have seen prisoners putting the whole rice in water so that the sand may go down. That is the state of things. As for vegetables, nothing of that kind is given to them at all, except what we call dhall and some rotten vegetables which are cooked together without sufficient chillies or salt. The convict does not mix this with rice, he mixes the rice with water so that the sand might settle down. This food is not at all sufficient, and the prisoner often begs a morsel of food from the next prisoner if he happens to be a man who will not eat much. There is no heart in the authorities that are put in charge of them. They treat them very badly.

"During the last debate on the budget, much objection was taken for giving a different treatment to European prisoners. It was then said that every prisoner should be given the kind of food that he used to take previously. And that is a very good rule and I appreciate it very much. But has the Home Member or the Government realised that every Indian takes some kind of curd? No curd whatsoever is given to the prisoner. Why should you not give them some curd? Another thing is non-vegetarians are not given non-vegetarian food at all. Whereas you supply the European prisoner with meat and fish and everything, you do not allow any such amenities to other prisoners.

"My hon. Friend for the University was talking about contrabands. The only difficulty is about tobacco. Every prisoner almost is used to tobacco. I think the European prisoners are allowed to smoke cigarettes. Why not allow the other prisoners to use some tobacco? It will put an end to the contraband. If you allow this much luxury and give them a little bit of tobacco, there will be an end of the difficulty. You see they are sufficiently punished by being kept there deprived of their liberty; some, perhaps, there may be who on the spur of the moment happened to do something for which they are paying the penalty, and others are there who are suffering their convictions. Why should such people be deprived of other ordinary things in life? This question has been urged so many times in this House. There is no good in satisfying this House with good speeches or promises. Unfortunately, this House cannot judge the real things. If every Member of this House makes it a rule to visit one prison at least, I think most of the difficulties pointed out by me would be solved. It may be said by way of reply—of course it is not stated now—that we have got non-official visitors. I was myself a non-official visitor for three years."

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—"The hon. Member's time-limit is over."

* Sriman BISWANATH DAS Mahasaya :—"Sir, I thank my hon. Friend 1 p.m. for having given a very hopeful account of what the Jail administration would be; but we are concerned with what the Jail administration is.

[Sriman Biswanath Das Mahasaya] [22nd March 1927]

Fortunately or unfortunately, I combine in one the experience of a jail both as a visitor and as a convict prisoner, for a few hours of course, through the kindness of my hon. Friends the ex-Ministers of the Justice party.

"There are two difficulties, Sir, so far as the ordinary prisoners are concerned. First is that the food that they get is very bad. The rice that is served to them is stinky and is not worth eating by ordinary individuals. I may say that this is not the fault of the higher authorities, but of the authorities who look after the jails and the contractors whom they engage to supply rice. Sir, a contractor once engaged has his own way of supplying the articles and these are unfortunately admitted as good. All these call for closer inspection by non-official visitors. This is one of the complain's of the convicts. Secondly, nothing worth the name of a curry is supplied to them. The vegetables are not purchased from the bazaars but are grown in the jails. And, of these, the good things are either sold or eaten away by the jail officials and the rotten things are made available to the convicts. Sir, it was my misfortune to be there as an inmate only for a few hours. I thought that I might not have to go to the jail again and so I took particular care to see what all kinds of food were served to the convicts. I found as a result that no ordinary human being will be inclined to take the food served there. Again, Sir, the clothing that is supplied to a convict is not enough for him. As this point has been fully dealt with by my hon. Friend from Rajahmundry, I do not want to dilate upon it and occupy the time of this hon. House.

"Sir, humane treatment is not accorded to political prisoners. I had been to the Berhampore Jail when some of the political prisoners were there and I found that a sympathetic treatment would have averted the unfortunate occurrence there. Some very ordinary wants, such as salt and chillies, were not supplied to them and then serious obstacles were thrown in the way of their getting proper accommodation and proper clothing. Under these circumstances, I am not prepared to concede, nor do I agree with my hon. Friend, that the Jail administration, as it is to-day, is humane or commendable. Of course, if the hon. Member promises that he would look into the thing and improve the state of affairs, that may be a matter for consideration while voting. But, as things stand at present, the hon. Member being in charge of this department for a long time cannot say that he has done his best to improve the lot of the unfortunate convicts. With these few words, I support the motion."

* Mr. R. SRINIVASA AYYANGAR :—"Sir, I rise to give my support to this motion. It is true that the speech made by the hon. the Home Member to-day is somewhat encouraging. So, if I rise to-day, it is with a view to sound a note of warning and to draw attention to the fact that, as things stand at present, there is less of human element in the jails and more of vindictive element. It is high time that the Government realize the fact that those who have the misfortune to enter the jails are after all human beings and after all people of this country. We do not ask the Government to give them any luxury, but it is up to the Government to give them the bare necessities of life.

"I should like to advert to the question of dietary. Now these convicts are given only greens, pumpkins and tomatoes which are grown in the gardens adjoining the jails. These may be good vegetables, but there is a

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certain dull monotony so far as the variety is concerned. I am of opinion therefore that some better kind of vegetables such as brinjals or other varieties may be supplied to them. The House would be astonished to hear that as a matter of fact buttermilk is not at all supplied to these prisoners; and we know for a fact that most of us will find it very difficult to finish our meal without buttermilk which we regard as absolutely necessary. Buttermilk is denied to them and ghee is absolutely out of the question.

"One point which if mentioned might cause a little amusement in the matter of diet is that each prisoner is given a standard diet. Each one is given a cake of cooked rice. I have come across in my capacity as a non-official visitor several instances where the prisoners not satisfied with the one cake supplied wanted something extra. Some of them wanted one and a quarter cakes. Some told me that one cake was too much for them and would take something less. I brought this matter to the notice of the Superintendent of the Jail and asked him to find out ways and means which would have the effect of equalizing or adjusting the position to the satisfaction of all concerned. His reply was that the Jail rules did not permit it. That is the kind of cast iron rule which permeates the Jail administration.

"So far as the bedding and clothing are concerned, the less said about them the better. It fell to my lot in the course of my inspection to find that the rice supplied was condemned rice and the dhal was split dhal. And I found that in the rice and in the dhal there were more small pieces of stones than the real articles themselves. When I drew the attention of the Jail authorities to this kind of supply, it was stated that by some mistake or other, one or two bags did contain some such thing. No doubt, thereafter, they took particular care to see that no such mistake took place.

"I had to enter my emphatic protest against the manner in which in the non-co-operation days the Jail administration was carried on and while I practically concede the sympathy of the Inspector-General of Prisons with respect to some of my recommendations, he put the rest aside probably because he being a big *nabab* was not prepared to accept the recommendations of a humble and poor non-official visitor. The whole thing requires reconsideration from a humane and humanitarian point of view and everybody must realise that people who find their way to the prisons or are made to find their way to the prisons on account of various circumstances are properly treated. It is up to the Government to see that the jails exist more as a house of correction rather than places of retribution. I have not the slightest doubt that judging from the hon. the Home Member's statement made to-day he will bestir himself and see that a better system of administration is made to prevail so far as the jails are concerned."

* MR. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR :—"I wish to say just a few words from my experience of the Coimbatore jail for the last four or five years, not as an inmate, but as one who has frequently visited it in connection with the Discharged Prisoners' Aid Society. I think so far as the Coimbatore jail is concerned I may make the admission that though there are several things still wanting to be done, the discussions in this House have had a good effect. There has been, I am glad to say, a good deal of improvement in that jail. Reference has been made to an English journal by name *Howard Journal*. It has now been made an Anglo-vernacular

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journal and its articles contain quotations from various sources. It would however be better if the journal becomes a vernacular journal fully.

"I may refer in this connexion to the provision of funds in the budget for an additional building for the Coimbatore jail. Although I am not against that improvement, I may suggest one or two points which will give more room in that jail. Evidently there is some impression that this new building is intended to provide additional cells. That is not so. It is, I believe, only intended to replace some cells which have become practically useless.

"So far as the cost of the jail feeding is concerned, I am sorry my hon. Friend behind me said something which may mean that these poor inmates of the jails are not doing the work allotted to them properly and willingly. So far as the Coimbatore jail is concerned, I may make the statement that except the executive staff the whole jail is self-maintained and that the work turned out by the poor convicts is more than what is necessary for the clothing, feeding, etc., of the convicts.

"One thing I want to suggest first so far as the jail at Coimbatore is concerned and that is, that the persons under remand, or under-trial prisoners should be taken away from the Central Jail. It is very unfortunate that the large number of under-trial prisoners are made to stay in the jails intended for convicts. There should be a sub-jail built separately, if necessary, specially intended for them.

"In the Coimbatore jail a big building is reserved for Mappilla State prisoners. They have been kept there for the last four or five years for no other offence than that of having been born of Mappilla parents. They should be released at once on any condition considered necessary by the Government. This demand of theirs has been practically supported by the Visitors' Committee presided over by the Collector himself. They, the prisoners, have put in a petition that all of them are willing to proceed anywhere outside Malabar--only they do not wish to be sent to the Audamans--if the Government so directs. That request was made two or three years ago and yet the hon. the Law Member has been saying that if any such applications come they will be considered. I would be very glad if the hon. the Law Member will at once go into the matter, see how long their petition has been with the Government and grant their prayer.

"Sir, provision ought to be made according to the Jail Committee's report for the grant of remission of sentences on certain conditions. One condition is that all long term prisoners should generally be given as soon as they have undergone two-thirds of their sentence, an opportunity of having their cases reconsidered. As Secretary of the Discharged Prisoners' Aid Society I am made a member of the committee and I may say that the first great obstacle in the committee considering their cases is the general reluctance of the officers including the Inspector-General of Prisons whose presence I do not see anywhere here. He is probably enjoying the Ootacamund climate. If anybody is responsible for the offences of many of these prisoners it is the hon. the Minister in charge of the Excise department. He is, by supplying drink to these people abetting at least 50 per cent of the murders in the Coimbatore district. This fact will be borne out if any investigation is made and the result is published. At its last meeting the committee has forwarded recommendations which will go to the effect that 50 per cent of the people

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who have been sentenced to transportation for life committed the offences under the influence of drink. Some leniency should be shown to these people, Sir, by the Government. This Government is generous in appointing committees, but, when those committees make recommendations, the Government begin to realize their responsibility and do not give effect to them. I would certainly say, Sir, that much more leniency should be shown regarding conditional releases.

"I shall give a particular instance. I know of a case where a Christian 1-16
policeman who came from the south-west corner of the district was employed p.m.
in Bhavani in the north-east corner of the district and he committed a crime when drunk for which he was sentenced to transportation for life. The committee, consisting of the District Judge and the Inspector-General (myself being absent), recommended that this man should be conditionally released. The Superintendent of Police also reported in his favour. But the District Magistrate was against him. He thought that no one who went into a jail should be let out. He had nothing to say against this man in particular, but he said that generally he was against the release of any one under any conditions whatsoever. The Government have wrongly refused to release him. I hope they will reconsider the matter now. Another instance I may perhaps give. A drama was recently enacted by the convicts and it was so good that many visitors wanted to present gold medals to practically all actors. This really shows that the convicts are there by accident and, given an opportunity, they are prepared to behave properly. I appeal to the hon. the Home Member to take these things into consideration and show greater sympathy and mercy and better treatment to these unfortunate people."

* The hon. Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—"Sir, I should like to mention one or two points which I forget to mention in my first speech. The hon. Member for the University asked why there had been a reduction in the dietary charges. It is due to the fact that we have budgeted this year for less number of prisoners than last year. A question has been raised to the effect that we do not give our prisoners vegetables. I have gone to a number of jails and, wherever I go, I find that they grow their vegetables in the garden."

* Mr. S. SATYAMURTI :—"That is only when the hon. Member goes. The vegetables go to the Superintendents' houses."

* Srirnan BISWANATH DAS Mahasayo :—"They sell vegetables."

* The hon. Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—"Well, these are all serious charges. I am prepared to enquire into them."

* Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR :—"Selling is common."

* The hon. Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—"It must be remembered that jails should not be made so very attractive to induce people outside to commit crimes and get into them. That is a danger which we should avoid. I am glad that Mr. Venkataramana Ayyangar has said that things have much improved in the Coimbatore Jail. If my hon. Friend visits other jails also he will see that what has happened in the Coimbatore Jail has happened in the other jails also. We have introduced a number of healthy changes. In regard to remand prisoners, I do agree that they ought not to be kept in the same place as other prisoners. If the House desires that that principle should be emphasized and given effect to, I have no objection to come before it with a demand for supplementary grant if necessary to accomplish this object. In regard to the remission of

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sentences, my hon. Friend Mr. Venkataramana Ayyangar said that we were not making sufficient advance. According to the recommendation of the Jails Committee, this Government have sanctioned a system of conditional release of persons who are recommended by advisory committees. As a matter of fact, we are letting out a lot of persons before their time is over. In most cases, we follow the advice of the advisory committees; but it is not possible for Government to accept the advice in every case. As I have stated before, all the criticisms advanced by the hon. Members will be borne in mind."

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—"The question is

'that the allotment of Rs. 34,600 for Superintendence be reduced by Rs. 100.'"

The motion was put to the House and declared lost. On a poll being demanded by Mr. Abdul Hamid Khan, the House divided—

Ayes.

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|--|---|
| 1. Mr. C. R. Parthasarathi Ayyangar | 18. Mr. J. A. Saldanha. |
| 2. " Sami Venkatachalam Chetti. | 19. " C. Obi Reddi. |
| 3. " S. Satyamurti. | 20. " C. Ramasomayajulu. |
| 4. " O. V. Venkataramana Ayyangar. | 21. " P. Bhaktavatsulu Nayudu. |
| 5. " P. Anjaneyulu. | 22. Sriman Biswanath Das Mahasaya. |
| 6. " K. Koti Reddi. | 23. Mr. A. Kaleswara Rao. |
| 7. " S. Muttayya Mudaliyar. | 24. " R. Srinivasa Ayyangar |
| 8. " P. C. Venkatapati Raju. | 25. Nattam Pubash Kadir Sahib Syed Ibrahim Sahib Bahadur. |
| 9. " C. S. Govindaraja Mudaliyar. | 26. Mr. B. Ramachandra Reddi. |
| 10. " G. Harisarvottama Rao. | 27. " L. K. Tuasiram |
| 11. " C. N. Muthuranga Mudaliyar. | 28. " K. R. Karant. |
| 12. " Abdul Hamid Khan. | 29. " K. V. Krishnaswami Nayakar. |
| 13. " K. V. R. Swami. | 30. " K. Madhavan Nayar. |
| 14. K. P. V. S. Muhammad Meera Ravuttar Bahadur. | 31. " B. Venkataratnam |
| 15. Mr. D. Narayana Raju. | 32. " M. A. Manikkavelu Nayakar. |
| 16. K. Uppi Sahib Bahadur. | 33. Rao Bahadur C. S. Ratnasabhapati Mudaliyar. |
| 17. Mr. C. Marudavanam Pillai. | |

Noes.

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1. The hon Sir C. P. Ramaswami Ayyar. | 25. Mr. R. Nagan Gowda. |
| 2. " Mr. N. E. Marjoribanks. | 26. Subadar-Major S. A. Nanjappa Bahadur. |
| 3. " Khan Bahadur Muhammad Usman Sahib Bahadur. | 27. Mr. N. Siva Raj. |
| 4. " Mr. T. E. Moir. | 28. " M. V. Gangadara Siva |
| 5. " Diwan Bahadur B. N. Arogyaswami Mudaliyar. | 29. " W. P. A. Soundarapandiya Nadar. |
| 6. " Mr. A. Ranganatha Mudaliyar. | 30. " Mr. S. Subrahmanya Moopanar. |
| 7. " Dr. P. Subbarayan. | 31. Rao Sahib P. V. S. Sundaramurti Pillai. |
| 8. Mr. T. R. Venkatarama Sastriyar. | 32. Mr. D. Thomas. |
| 9. " J. F. Hall. | 33. " K. Krishnan. |
| 10. " P. L. Moore. | 34. " S. Arpudaswami Udayar. |
| 11. " Gnanavarnam Pillai. | 35. Tajudin Sahib Bahadur. |
| 12. " G. T. Boag. | 36. Swami Sahajananda. |
| 13. " V. Pandrang Row. | 37. Rao Sahib R. Srinivasan. |
| 14. " S. H. Slater. | 38. Mr. H. F. P. Hearson. |
| 15. " C. B. Cotterell. | 39. " C. R. T. Congreve. |
| 16. Khan Bahadur Muhammad Bazul-ul-lah Sahib Bahadur. | 40. " J. Mackenzie Smith. |
| 17. Mr. Wahab Sahib. | 41. Rao Sahib L. O. Guruswami. |
| 18. Abbas Ali Khan Bahadur. | 42. Mr. V. I. Manuswami Pillai. |
| 19. Mr. H. B. Ari Gowder. | 43. The Raja of Panagal. |
| 20. " J. Bheemayya. | 44. Diwan Bahadur M. Krishnan Nayar. |
| 21. " J. A. Davis. | 45. Khan Bahadur S. K. Abdul Baseek Sahib Bahadur. |
| 22. Rao Sahib M. Hampayya. | 46. Mr. T. K. Chidambaranatha Mudaliyar. |
| 23. Mr. V. Ch. John. | 47. " S. N. Dorai Raja. |
| 24. Muppil Nayar of Kavalappara. | 48. Diwan Bahadur P. O. Ethirajulu Nayudu. |
| | 49. Mr. Kadir Mohideen Sahib. |

Ayes 33. Noes. 49.

The motion was lost.

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The hon. the PRESIDENT :—"I do not see how motion No. 597^a is in order. The question of the period of imprisonment is a matter which comes under the portfolio of the hon. the Law Member. Under the Criminal Procedure Code it is the Local Government that can remit sentences and I think it is the hon. the Law Member who deals with this. The hon. the Home Member has to entertain the prisoners as long as the hon. the Law Member wants them to be in jail. (Laughter.) Before I give a ruling whether this—a token motion intended to recommend something to the hon. the Home Member—is in order I want to know how this is in order."

Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR :—"Is not the reduction of sentences in the hands of the hon. the Home Member?"

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—"Reduction of sentences and release of prisoners are dealt with under the Criminal Procedure Code and the portfolio is in my hands."

Mr. K. MADHAVAN NAYAR :—"I gave notice of this motion for cut under dietary charges, I think."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—"My difficulty is this. Take for instance the motion No. 624^b. Supposing it is carried the hon. the Home Member may feel some inconvenience as he will not have sufficient money to carry on his department and he may have to go to his colleague and ask him to release some of the prisoners. But I am not able to understand how the object can be attained by a token motion regarding the administration of jails, a subject for which the hon. the Home Member is responsible."

* Mr. R. SRINIVASA AYYANGAR :—"Sir, the power of clemency and the grant of remissions inheres in the Local Government, in the Governor in the Council. The object of this motion is to bring a certain amount of pressure on the hon. the Home Member who retains these persons in jail so that he may in his turn put pressure on the hon. the Law Member and ultimately on the Government to bring about the desired state of things. In that view of the matter, this motion is perfectly in order. We are having a Cabinet Government. It is with a view to acquaint the hon. the Home Member of the feeling of the House so that he, if so minded and if convinced of the soundness of the reasons, may put pressure on the hon. the Law Member and ultimately on the whole Government, this motion is brought and as such I submit it is perfectly in order."

* Mr. S. SATYAMURTI :—"If my hon. Friend is correct in his statement that this matter is in his portfolio, then there is no demand really in which we can urge the release of these persons."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—"Criminal Justice which we have passed over. Hon. Members ought to have made their own arrangements for discussing this subject under that demand."

^a 597. Mr. K. MADHAVAN NAYAR :—

To reduce the allotment of Rs. 34,600 for Superintendence by Rs. 100.

(To discuss the question of releasing the Malabar rebellion prisoners.)

^b 624. Mr. K. MADHAVAN NAYAR :—

To reduce the allotment of Rs. 29.45 lakhs for Jails by Rs. 2 lakhs.

(To discuss the question of releasing Malabar rebellion prisoners.)

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Mr. S. SATYAMURTI :—" I am not complaining, Mr. President. It is our fault and we are paying the penalty for that. In Criminal Justice there is no allotment for jails."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" If a token motion had been given under Criminal Justice, it would have amounted to a censure on the hon. the Law Member if you had carried the motion."

* Mr. S. SATYAMURTI :—" Once persons are convicted and sent to prison, they cease to be under the jurisdiction of the criminal courts. They cease to be under the portfolio of the hon. the Law Member and they are under the portfolio of the hon. the Home Member."

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" Only for maintenance."

1-30
p.m.

* Mr. S. SATYAMURTI :—" In our opinion, these people should not be there and the jails must be closed to them. If we do not give money under the demand for jails, the hon. the Law Member will have to find shelter for them, it may be, in his house. So far as we are concerned, we do not propose to vote money for the Mappilla rebellion prisoners. There are two ways of doing it. One way is to give notice of a solid cut. Another way, the less extreme and severe way is this. We tell the hon. the Home Member that, in our judgment, the money spent on these prisoners is not spent properly and that the jails must be shut against them. That is one way of looking at this question."

" If precedents are of any value—I am speaking subject to correction—till now, this matter of release of prisoners from jails has been dealt with under the Jails Demand."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" My recollection is that only substantial cuts were proposed in those cases."

* Mr. S. SATYAMURTI :—" The question of the point of order then becomes a narrow one. It is said that this question should not be discussed under this demand. The object of this token motion is to express to the hon. the Home Member that we are displeased with him in giving hospitality to these prisoners who should have been released. If we carry this demand, the hon. the Home Member must tell the hon. the Law Member—as you suggested in another connexion—that the opinion of this House is that these people should be released and therefore the demand has been reduced. I submit, Sir, that there is nothing in the Rules or the Standing Orders against the motion, and if we have failed to make a substantial cut, it is our fault and we will pay the penalty for it. We beg of you to allow the motion to be made. The only way in which we can do it, is to say that we do not want to pay for the food of these prisoners which is provided for under the grant of Jails."

* Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR :—" The token motion, Sir, if carried, is a censure against the whole Government and not necessarily against the gentleman who is, by accident, in charge of the particular subject. The hon. Members of Government may have divided the subjects according to their convenience even though both the subjects may be in charge of the same department. We are attacking the Government policy as a whole, and not particularly that of a particular Member. Therefore I think that this is the proper place where we can talk of such motions."

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* The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—" Sir, each Member of the Government moves a grant for the Government. But in moving that grant, he is exposed to attack in certain matters pertaining to that grant. The position so far as law is concerned, is perfectly clear, viz., that under sections 401 to 405 of the Criminal Procedure Code, the Local Government has got the right of remitting sentences and releasing prisoners. As will be noticed from the list of subjects within the portfolio of each Member of Government, the question of proceeding under the Criminal Procedure Code and releasing of prisoners is solely vested in the Law Member for the time being. Therefore questions relating to remission of sentences and to the release of prisoners are dealt with by me primarily. The point that was put forward by the hon. Member for the University, viz., that by a token motion it was sought to convince the hon. the Home Member that there might be no room in the jails for the Mappilla Rebellion prisoners, seems to be beside the point, because it is not a question of whether there is room for the Mappilla prisoners or not, but whether the Government are bound to exercise the powers vested in them under the Criminal Procedure Code. That, I take it, is a matter that appertains to the head ' Criminal Justice '."

* Mr. S. SATYAMURTI :—" Sir, with regard to the law on the matter, section 72-D of the Act, clause (2), in the first sentence, lays down the procedure with regard to the presentation of the budget to the House. Then Sir, in defining the powers of this House, it simply says that the Council may assent or refuse its assent to a demand, or may reduce the amount therein referred to either by reduction of the whole grant or by the omission or reduction of any of the items of expenditure of which the grant is composed. I submit, Sir, so far as this wording is concerned, this Motion of Mr. Madhavan Nayar is perfectly in order. It seeks to reduce an item of expenditure of which this grant is composed. Then Sir, rule 30 of the Legislative Council Rules says :

' Motions may be moved at this stage to reduce any grant or to omit or reduce any item in a grant, but not to increase or alter the destination of a grant.'

" My submission is that, so long as this Motion does not contravene either section 72-D of the Government of India Act or rule 30 (2) of the Legislative Council Rules, this Motion is in order. What the effect of this Motion will be is not for us to decide. As my hon. Friend humourously suggests, we know the effect of all token motions. I therefore suggest that this Motion does not contravene either the Act or the Legislative Council Rules."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" It is true that a motion may be moved for the omission of any item or reduction of any item. But in doing so, the question of relevancy is very important. Under Standing Order 28, the matter of every speech must be strictly relevant to the matter before the Council. Under Standing Order 32, an amendment must be relevant to and within the scope of the subject-matter of the clause or motion to which it relates. Under these two rules, I think it is the duty of the President to say whether the discussion is relevant to the demand. As long as the release of prisoners is in the portfolio of the hon. the Law Member, I am not able to see how the discussion of this motion is relevant to the demand under discussion now. Therefore, I rule that the motion is out of order."

The House then adjourned for lunch.

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After Lunch (2-30 p.m.)

Mr. SAMI VENKATACHALAM CHETTI:—"May I say a word, Sir? In pursuance of the ruling you were pleased to give just before lunch, so far as my Party is concerned, we do not propose to move any motion until we come to Motions "624 and 625."

* Mr. S. ARPUDASWAMI UDAYAR:—"Mr. President, Sir, I move
'for the reduction of the allotment of Rs. 42,500 for pay of establishments by Rs. 100.'

"Time and again, Sir, the question of the treatment of prisoners in jails or the infliction of punishments on them has been coming before this House, and I think that the best method of preventing all ill-treatment, of avoiding all abuses of this kind is to improve the manner of recruitment of officers such as deputy jailors and jailors, i.e., by recruiting persons with higher educational qualifications for these posts. Everything depends, Sir, on experience, on a knowledge of human psychology, of human character, of human temper, of the limits within which the infliction of punishment for disciplinary purposes will prove really beneficial and the point at which the infliction of punishment is sure to do more harm than good. I do not pretend to say that every man because he possesses high educational qualifications is going to improve matters. But, taking things as they are that a man with higher educational qualifications is apt to bring to his work greater refinement, greater discretion, greater prudence and a greater knowledge of human nature, I think that the most satisfactory method of avoiding most of these abuses will be to improve the morale, the character and the qualifications of these officers. At present, Sir, there are large numbers of graduates who are available even for these appointments, and most of these appointments are made, I know, by the Staff Selection Board. The plea that is now put forward is that the candidates should possess good health, and a robust physique, in order to fit them for employment; educational qualifications are not prized so much as robustness or possession of good physical vigour. Under this plea, we find that very many persons possessing only a junior certificate are appointed as deputy jailors and jailors. Therefore I want to press upon the attention of the hon. the Home Member the desirability of recruiting as officers, that is as deputy jailors and jailors, men possessing high educational qualifications. Those men are better equipped for this kind of work, in the possession of sympathy, tact and discretion and they

624 (405) Mr. K. UPPI SAHIB,—

Rs.

(103) Mr. K. MADHAVAN NAYAR:—

To reduce the allotment of Rs. 29.45 lakhs for Jails by ..	2,00,000
(To discuss the question of releasing Malabar Rebellion prisoners.)	

625 (104) Mr. K. MADHAVAN NAYAR:—

To reduce the allotment of Rs. 29.45 lakhs for Jails by ..	1,00,000
(To discuss the question of non-release of Mr. M. P. Narayana Menon.)	

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[Mr. S. Arpudaswami Udayar]

may know when and under what circumstances punishment for disciplinary purposes may be safely inflicted and may do good. They are also men who could be credited with greater sympathy, and with greater earnestness in improving the lot of these prisoners and in seeing that they are provided with good food; for, granting that a certain sum is set apart for procuring all kinds of commodities, greater vigilance will result in good stuff being bought and better food being provided to the prisoners. So, for this reason, viz., of improving the human element and of avoiding all the abuses now prevalent, I move this cut."

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—"The question is

'to reduce the allotment of Rs. 42,500 for pay of establishments by Rs. 100'."

* The hon. Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :--
"Mr. President, Sir, my hon. Friend, Mr. Arpudaswami Udayar, has raised this question that jailors and deputy jailors should be recruited from men who have got higher educational qualifications. I agree with him. Government have in view that these officers should possess higher qualifications, as has been prescribed by the Indian Jails Committee. From the report of the Jails Committee, it is seen that

'recruitment for jailors and deputy jailors should not be made at the lowest point, that is, at the bottom of the clerical establishment, but should commence ordinarily at the grade of deputy jailor, though direct appointment to the grade of jailor should not be prohibited. In such recruitment the desirability of securing persons of superior education should be kept constantly in view, but we do not advocate the laying down of any fixed standard of academical attainment, such as the Intermediate examination or the B.A. degree, because that course would involve the danger of excluding many of the classes of the population who are best suited for executive work. We think that, while every endeavour should be made to secure candidates with the highest available equipment in general education, the Inspector-General of Prisons should have full discretion to enlist persons otherwise suitable for jail employ, such as soldiers of the British or Indian Army who possess good educational qualifications. Nor would we debar him from promoting to the executive grade specially deserving and suitable members of the clerical staff, although such promotion would be an exceptional course. We consider it essential that jailors should be acquainted with one of the chief vernaculars of the Province.'

"I can say that the policy which Government are at present pursuing is laid down in the extract quoted above. I think the Staff Selection Board which makes the recruitment for jailors and deputy jailors are also following this rule. I entirely agree with the hon. the Mover of the motion that better educational qualifications would certainly be a very great advantage, and that will be kept in view.

"With regard to warders, I do not think that we can insist upon higher education being one of the qualifications for that post on account of the small pay fixed for it. I think, Sir, this morning the question was raised that jailors and deputy jailors should be men not only with high educational qualifications but also men of character. I quite agree; we must get men with high character, men who are patriotic enough to serve their fellow-men, men who could do what they can to make the lives of the prisoners happy. I shall bring to the notice of the Staff Selection Board, if necessary, the remarks that have fallen from the hon. Member."

* Mr. ABDUL HAMID KHAN :—"Mr. President, Sir, on this particular question, I wish to say a word, and it is this: I suppose the Government remember that it was last year that an advertisement was made

[Mr. Abdul Hamid Khan]

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calling upon graduates of the Madras University to apply for posts of deputy jailors, and I am not sure if it was for jailors also. I believe that applications were sent and some of the applicants were asked to present themselves before a certain Committee, I do not know if it was the Staff Selection Board. Again, a certain number of those applicants were really selected for appointment, and though it is about a year or so since that selection was made, one does not know, neither the applicants themselves nor the public know, when they will be actually appointed, to the posts concerned. I shall be thankful to the hon. the Home Member if he will kindly apprise me of the action he proposes to take on the matter."

The motion was by leave withdrawn.

* Rao Sahib R. SRINIVASAN :—" Sir, I move

' that the allotment of Rs. 87,200 for pay of officers be reduced by Rs. 100.'

" Sir, I think that when a Magistrate or a Judge pronounces his sentence on an accused, he takes into consideration the age, the status of the man in society, and passes the sentence of punishment, which he deserves. But when he is taken into the jail, the jail authorities give him work, according to his caste, hard work to a low-caste man and light work to an high-caste man. I understand that there are some rules and regulations in regard to distribution of work among the convicts. If the Judge passes a death sentence on a man, the jail authorities should not hang one man by the neck because he was an high-caste and another by the leg till he died because he was a low-caste man. I do not think the jail authorities are at all fair in giving such treatment to these low-caste people. I do not want to say anything more on this matter and with these words I move my motion."

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" The question is

' to reduce the allotment of Rs. 87,200 for pay of officers by Rs. 100 '."

* The hon. Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—

" Sir, with regard to this question there has been a certain amount of misunderstanding, and I should therefore like to make a statement thereon. The subject of convict labour is dealt with in Chapter XXIV of the Jail Manual. All jail labour is divided into three main classes, hard, medium and light. The scale of tasks arranged according to these classes is printed in Appendix III, Part XIII. When a medical officer has certified the class of labour for which a convict is fit, the Superintendent determines the particular employment to which such convict shall be put. Prisoners classed as fit for medium or light labour are placed once a month before the medical officer who examines them with a view to their reclassification, if necessary. If any prisoner passed for hard labour subsequently becomes permanently unfit to perform it, the medical officer records the revised class of labour for which the prisoner is fit. In allotting labour, reasonable allowance is made for caste prejudices, i.e., no Brahman or caste Hindu is employed on chucklers' work. Care is also taken that caste prejudice is not made an excuse for avoiding heavy forms of labour. Frequent changes of work except on medical grounds are also avoided. All menial offices in the jail shall, as far as possible, be performed by the convicts themselves. The main object of prison labour is the reformation of the prisoner. Consistently with

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the above rules, labour is allotted to the prisoners in jail. Considerations of caste except those mentioned in rule 387 do not enter in fixing the tasks of convicts. The prisoner's previous occupation prior to incarceration, his health and capacity for work are generally the criteria adopted in allotting tasks.

"From this, it is clear that we do make a distinction in regard to various kinds of work which prisoners are called upon to perform, so that a man belonging to the higher castes is not allowed to do the work which is generally performed by lower castes."

The motion was, by leave of the House, withdrawn.

* Mr. K. MADHAVAN NAYAR :—"The resolution that I have tabled is a very modest one. I move— 2-45 p.m.

'that the allotment of Rs. 29.45 lakhs for jails be reduced by Rs. 2 lakhs.' (To discuss the question of non-release of Mr. M. P. Narayana Menon)

"Sir, I certainly would have liked to meet the hon. the Law Member on this subject, but, unfortunately, it so happens that this out motion has come under Jails and Mr. Usman Sahib, the Home Member, has to answer the charges that I have to lay against the Government. Now, with regard to the Mappilla prisoners, I urge for their release on three grounds: one, that they have been imprisoned under exceptional circumstances and that they have committed offences under exceptional circumstances; secondly, their trial in summary courts were quite unsatisfactory—they had no facilities of either defending themselves or adducing evidence to show that they are innocent; and thirdly, even supposing they were guilty, even supposing their conviction by the summary courts was correct, they have been sufficiently punished or too much punished already. I will deal with the last point first, and, even supposing I may not be able to convince this House of the reasonableness of my argument with regard to the other two points, I am sure on this point the House cannot but agree with me.

"These Mappilla prisoners have been in jail for over five years now. From 1921, or rather from the latter part of 1921, most of them have been undergoing imprisonment. Even for ordinary dacoits a period of five or six years' imprisonment is considered to be a sufficiently severe punishment. I do not want you to agree that all the Mappilla prisoners should be released. I make a modest demand, because it is only prisoners who are not convicted of offences involving serious personal violence, it is only those prisoners that I want should be released. Mappilla prisoners who have been convicted of looting and other offences relating to property not involving personal violence I want should be released. I do not want Mappilla prisoners who were convicted of rape, murder or other grave crimes should be released, and my motion does not cover their case. Let that be distinctly understood; it is not a general demand that I make. But in cases like this, where those Mappilla prisoners have been convicted for offences not involving personal violence and incarcerated for a period of five years and more, is it not high time that they are released? That is my submission to this House and I believe every section in this House will agree with me. I am sorry to say that the token motion has been overruled on technical grounds and there seems to be some objection on the part of certain sections of this House to vote on my motion for this substantial out expressly stating, if necessary,

[Mr. K. Madhavan Nayar]

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that they are compelled to do so because the token motion has been overruled. On that express understanding I suppose all the Members can join me in this motion.

“ With regard to the first point, Sir, the circumstances under which the Mappilla prisoners were convicted have to be considered and, if you bestow careful attention upon those circumstances, you will certainly agree with me that many of them are not morally guilty but were victims of circumstances. Almost all these prisoners who committed offences in the early stages of the rebellion were victims of an unwise, impolitic, and unstatesmanlike administration in Malabar, and I certainly submit this with all the force of authority that a man with actual experience can command. I may tell you that this rebellion in Malabar was the most accidental of accidental circumstances. It was not a rebellion that was conceived, deliberated upon, and organized long before it actually broke out. It was because the Mappillas heard and believed the rumour that their sacred mosque at Tirurangadi was destroyed or fired upon by the Collector and the District Superintendent of Police, because of this they rose in a body and committed excess for which they were prosecuted and punished later on. The rebels divided themselves in two sections, the fighting section and the looting section. It was very clear even from the very inception of the rebellion that there were two such clear sections with two different motives. One section comprised the fanatics who were bent upon fighting Government and the other section of such people who when they found that there was no sign of any authority in the country, that the police fled and officers hid themselves for life, who, under such circumstances, finding their equals and superiors engaged in looting and other things, they also joined in the general wave of anarchy that prevailed all over the land. Persons who were looting from house to house and who committed seven or eight or ten offences in the course of one day have been given 14, 16, and 20 years at the rate of 2 years for each offence running consecutively though it is only practically one offence that they have committed. It is such people that are sent to the Andamans. It is such people that are suffering in the Alipuram and Bellary jails and for whom I plead before you. It is high time to release them. Cannot the Government show some consideration to these people who were the victims of circumstances, who are not ordinary looters and dacoits, or ordinarily immoral people, and after the lapse of five years from 1921, I do not know what justification the Government have for keeping them further in jails. I therefore submit that it is high time that these Mappilla prisoners who were not guilty of violence are released.

“ With regard to the second ground I mentioned, you have to take the circumstances under which the trials in those rebellious times were conducted. During these days it was the summary courts that tried these people. These prisoners, could not get proper legal advice, and could not secure proper evidence. If any witness comes and gives evidence on their behalf, he finds immediately a change of place from the witness box to the prisoner's dock. The fear of consequences of giving evidence on behalf of any martial law prisoner deterred people from giving evidence. There were cases during those days when two sets of people were prosecuted for murdering the same man under different circumstances and at different times. Those trials were of a perfunctory nature, and were quite unsatisfactory, so that many innocent people have also been convicted. Under these circumstances, I submit

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that, taking into consideration the fact that offences were committed under exceptional circumstances, that the accused persons were not able to defend themselves properly and not able to prove their innocence, and that they have been punished sufficiently, punished too much. Under these circumstances, I submit these prisoners are entitled to be released at once."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT:—"The question is that the allotment of Rs. 29.45 lakhs for jails be reduced by 2 lakhs."

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR:—"Mr. President, Sir, with reference to the speech made by the hon. Member from Malabar, there are two observations with which I propose to preface the remarks which I shall make on the attempts made by Government to release these prisoners in the past and what they are going to do in the way of releasing these prisoners in the immediate and proximate future.

"In the first place, let me say this: That Government recognize that there were two categories of prisoners involved in this Mappilla rebellion: prisoners who may be described legitimately as principals or persons who have taken a big and an important part in crimes of violence amounting to murder and other acts which I do not desire to recount. There were others, who were, so to say, victims misled either by their acts or by the machinations of the leaders. That distinction has been present to the mind of the Government and they also realise that the circumstances of that time were entirely exceptional. Having said that, let me point out exactly what has been done and what Government propose to do.

"In 1922, Government considered—I am reading my own notes taken from the various documents—that among the Mappillas undergoing imprisonment for offences committed in connexion with the Malabar rebellion, there was a considerable number convicted in the early stages of the rebellion of crimes, which though serious in themselves, might yet be regarded as of minor gravity. They therefore resolved to review the sentences in such cases and to release from imprisonment those of the offenders who might be regarded as having been sufficiently punished for their crime. One thousand two hundred and ninety-one prisoners were accordingly ordered to be released. About the beginning of 1924 the Government considered that the time had arrived to consider whether among the persons convicted in connexion with the rebellion and confined in jails there were still men whose release was possible on the ground that they had taken only a minor part in the rebellion, that they were not confirmed or habitual criminals or likely to be a source of danger and that the local authorities as well as the people in their Amsoms had no objection to their returning to their homes. At that time there was also a debate in this Council and on the 3rd April 1924 this hon. Council passed the following resolution:—

'That this Council recommends to the Government that all the Mappilla prisoners convicted for offences connected with the rebellion other than offences of murder and offences involving serious actual personal violence be released.'

"In order to enable a decision to be taken in individual cases, Government proceeded to classify prisoners with reference to the nature of the offence, the length of their sentence and the degree of criminality involved. Mr. Hilton Brown was asked to do this work for the Government. When he entered on

[Sir C. P. Ramaswami Ayyar] [22nd March 1927]

this duty, there were 7,075 prisoners undergoing imprisonment in jails, besides 280 adolescents and 196 juveniles in Palamcottah Jail and Tanjore Borstal Institute. Mr. Hilton Brown examined the cases and 1,325 of those prisoners were dealt with. As a result of the investigations of Government, 764 prisoners have already been released in batches, the last batch of 117 having been released in December 1926. The cases of prisoners in the Palamcottah Jail have also been examined by Government and 15 prisoners who could be released without danger were released in March 1926. We are again considering the question whether any special measures could be adopted to expedite the release of these prisoners.

3 p.m. "We have decided to release within six months, starting immediately, 828 prisoners considered to be not dangerous and normally due for release in 1928, 1929, 1930 and 1931 and succeeding years. And therefore these 828 prisoners will be immediately released. It is also proposed during the first half of 1928 to release 188 more prisoners included in the same category. Of the prisoners who are considered dangerous, 1,451 would be released in 1929 and 468 in 1930. In order, however, to prevent the return to Malabar of this class of dangerous men within a short space of time the Government are accepting the proposals of the District Magistrate to begin the release of these men at intervals of a month each so that they may be distributed evenly over each month of 1928 and 1929. Orders in these cases will be issued almost immediately. The Government have also decided to consider the question of further releases after the effects of the present releases have been gauged. After about six months, if no difficulty arises, the other releases will also be expedited. Our idea therefore is that there is a feeling in Malabar that if a large number of people, one thousand to two thousand, come back to Malabar at the same time they will give rise to a certain amount of trouble. It is in view of these considerations that the process of releasing these prisoners has been perhaps less expeditious than might otherwise have been. All I desire to say is that these figures I have mentioned demonstrate the attempts that Government have been making in this direction, and the Government will bear in mind the remarks made by the hon. Member for Malabar in his speech."

Mr. K. UPPI SAHIB:—"So far as the Mappilla prisoners are concerned, we have the statement made on the floor of this House by the hon. the Law Member, but I may say that we did hear nothing about the release of Mr. Narayana Menon about which the House passed resolutions and token motions. It is not known whether he is also included among the Malabar Rebellion prisoners who are to be released. He is one of the Rebellion prisoners and this Council has been voicing forth its opinions about his release on more than one occasion. We wish to hear about that gentleman also. After hearing the statement made by the hon. the Law Member I do not wish to make any further remarks on the matter."

* MAHMUD SCHAMNAD SAHIB Bahadur:—"Sir, I thank the hon. the Law Member for the statement he has just now made and for his promise of releasing the prisoners. We have been listening to debates on this question year after year since the year 1922. In 1922 a resolution was passed for a out of Rs. 2,00,000 in the allotment for jails and in 1923 a similar resolution was passed. In 1924 a motion for reduction was brought forward by my hon. Friend Mr. C. V. Venkataramana Ayyangar and was passed by an overwhelming majority of 59 to 24, I think. But Government have been very

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slow in giving effect to these resolutions. I think there are still at least 6,000 Malabar Rebellion prisoners rotting in jails, including non-Mappilla prisoners. I think their cases do not stand on a different footing, for they are all Malabar Rebellion prisoners, and their cases must be considered equally leniently. Now, when in 1923 the distinguished leader of the then Opposition who is now occupying the presidential chair pleaded for a policy of conciliation and asked the Government to set at liberty these unfortunate victims and save so much money and inconvenience, Sir Arthur Knapp, the then Home Member of the Government of Madras, said this: 'I will ask the Council to remember that it is just 20 months since the rebellion commenced and it would rather be premature now to expect that all prisoners irrespective of the nature of their offences would be released. A certain number has already been released and I am quite prepared gradually and cautiously to extend release to others'. Sir, although it is now four years since this announcement was made, I think it will be admitted that the action taken so far has not been satisfactory. As I said, 6,000 Rebellion prisoners are even now rotting in jails. These 6,000 prisoners cost to the Government nearly Rs. 6,00,000 a year. By their release there will not only be much saving, but the Government will also be given an opportunity to conciliate the people and promote friendship between the different communities, and to increase the prosperity of Malabar. I make this appeal not only in the interests of retrenchment but also in the interests of justice and peace. The nature of the offence and the circumstances under which it was committed it is unnecessary to point out now. As my hon. Friend Mr. Madhavan Nayar has spoken already about it, I do not wish to dilate upon it. Even if some of them may have been really guilty, six years imprisonment is a sufficiently long period and they have suffered enough for the sins committed by them in being carried away by the wave of unrest passing over India at that time. For these reasons, I hope the Government will see that they are no longer detained in the prisons."

* Mr. ABBAS ALI KHAN:—"Mr. President, Sir, allow me also to take the liberty of congratulating the hon. the Home Member and also the hon. the Law Member for after all conceding the unanimous wish of the House that was expressed year after year in no unmistakable terms. Now it is a source of considerable pride and satisfaction that the little labours that I have devoted towards the achievement of this object, which is most dear and near to my heart, for which I have worked incessantly, unceasingly, in season and out of season, openly and also privately and for which I have been using the little influence that I possess with the hon. Members of the Treasury bench, have borne fruit. To-day I find that the ambition of my life is on the point of being realised. Sir, the old Members of this House who have been with me here for the last two or three years would know that I was appointed to go on tour round the affected area and report about the condition of Malabar and Mappillas. I gave a true and real story of what was there taking place in Malabar. Subsequently it was I that moved in this House a resolution on the subject in the face of tremendous opposition which I had to meet then. I was glad to see that at the second time when I moved the resolution it was carried unanimously without a single dissenting voice. And I was particularly happy to see that my distinguished Friends Mr. Prabhakaran Tampan and Mr. Krishnan Nayar also gave their unqualified support to it. And, as regards Mr. Satyamurti, I may say, Sir, he is

[Mr. Abbas Ali Khan]

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always in the forefront to give his succour and support, his advice and guidance on the question of this distressed and distracted community, the Mappillas. (Hear, hear). This subject was frequently taken up by this House and that shows, Sir, that upon this vital matter there are no two opinions, and I am glad to see that the Government have at last realised that it would not be conducive to the peace, well-being and harmony of the Indian people, more especially of the district of Malabar, that these unfortunate Mappillas, who were responsible for the rebellion because of fanaticism due to causes beyond their control, should any longer be detained in the jails. I take it from the figures read out by the hon. the Law Member now that by the year 1931 there will be no Mappillas at all in the jails. Am I right, Sir ? ”

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—“ I have not made out the total of these figures, Sir. The total represents the number proposed to be released.”

MR. ABBAS ALI KHAN :—“ I may also say, Sir, that the appointment of Mr. Hilton Brown was due to myself. I suggested to my hon. Friend Sir Arthur Knapp to include me also in the committee. We all welcomed the appointment of Mr. Hilton Brown who, as the House knows, is delighting the Madras public with his delicious articles in the “ Hindu ” and teaching us how to write and appreciate modern English. It was he that went through the whole of that scheme and it was he who made substantial recommendations for the release of Mappilla prisoners. I was only sorry that I was not in that work. I would suggest to the hon. the Law Member that he should expedite the release of these Mappilla gentlemen who are now in jails and that a committee of non-officials be appointed to go through the work with him and expedite the process. Well, Sir, I do not want to detain the House any longer but would add that, while I am thankful to the hon. the Law Member for the statement he has already made, I hope he would also make an announcement about the release of Mr. Narayana Menon about whose release many Muhammadans also, both inside and outside this House, are particularly anxious because they feel that Mr. Narayana Menon is an educated gentleman and it is no longer desirable that he should be further detained in jail. After the statement, I hope this motion will not be pressed to a division.”

MR. SAMI VENKATACHALAM CHETTI :—“ Sir, it is only with a view to give expression to the wishes of my hon. Friend, Mr. Abbas Ali, that the hon. the Law Member may give a statement with regard to Mr. Narayana Menon because he is one of the Malabar Rebellion prisoners, that I rise to speak on this occasion. I thought the hon. the Law Member himself will volunteer to make a statement with regard to him, knowing as he does the feeling in this House, but as a clever Parliamentarian perhaps he only intended to evade the question. (The hon. Sir O. P. Ramaswami Ayyar : ‘ Question ’.) So I expect the hon. the Law Member will now kindly reply with regard to that matter so that the House may be satisfied as to what action the Government propose to take with regard to the release of Mr. Narayana Menon.”

The hon. Sir O. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—“ Sir, I desire in the first place to disown either the clever parliamentarianism or the desire to evade

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the question. With regard to Mr. M. P. Narayana Menon, Government have been considering his case in view of what has fallen from many hon. Members in this House and what has been stated outside. Government have always made it clear to Mr. Narayana Menon, and they now desire to say that, provided Mr. Narayana Menon is able to give an undertaking that he will not enter or reside in Malabar and will not take part in such activities as have led to this unfortunate difficulty, I mean political activities, Government will be only too willing to consider the question of his release. After I came into this House, the question has been further propounded to me whether, if two men of undoubted integrity and standing were to make themselves a kind of surety for Mr. Narayana Menon with regard to these two matters, Government would be prepared to consider that matter. I have not had the occasion to consult either my hon. Colleagues or anyone else on that matter. But I may say that if Government are satisfied on the two points I have indicated, the possibility of Government considering the question will be by no means remote."

Diwan Bahadur M. KRISHNAN NAYAR :—" With reference to the statement made by my hon. Friend the Law Member with regard to the release of Mr. Narayana Menon, may I ask for some more definite information from my hon. Friend? My Friend stated that if Mr. Narayana Menon gives these two undertakings, namely, that he will not reside in Malabar and also that he will not take part in political agitation, the Government are prepared to consider the matter. That is how I understood my hon. Friend. Is it the Government's intention that Mr. Narayana Menon should give an undertaking that he would not reside in Malabar for the whole of his lifetime or does the Government think of fixing any period, and if so, what it is, with reference to either or both conditions? "

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—" Sir, in a matter of that kind Government cannot but realize that if they release the Mappilla prisoners and ask them that until further orders they should not go to Malabar, it means it depends upon the peaceful state and the tranquillity of the district. It is impossible for Government to give any hard and fast period. It is stated until further orders and if at the end of one or two or three years the circumstances are favourable it will be reconsidered. Therefore the orders will be until further orders "

3-15
p.m.

Mr. K. MADHAVAN NAYAR :—" While on this point, may I ask the hon. the Law Member who made that report that two persons would give the undertaking? "

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—" It has been put to me like that. I do not wish to give the names. It may be that the offer may be made or may not."

Mr. SAMI VENKATACHALAM CHEITI :—" I move that the question be now put."

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" The question is that the question be now put."

The closure motion was carried.

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The hon. the PRESIDENT:—"The question is to reduce the allotment of Rs. 29.45 lakhs for jails by 2 lakhs."

The motion was declared lost.

A poll was demanded and the House divided as follows:—

Ayes.

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| 1. Mahmud Shamaad Sahib Bahadur. | 19. Mr. K. Uppi Sahib. |
| 2. Mr. S. V. Vanavudia Goundar. | 20. " C. Marudavanam Pillai. |
| 3. " Swami Venkatachalam Chetti. | 21. " J. A. Saldanha. |
| 4. " S. Satyamurti. | 22. " C. Obi Reddi. |
| 5. " C. V. Venkataramana Ayyangar. | 23. " C. Ramasomayajulu. |
| 6. " T. Adinarayana Chetti. | 24. " P. Bhaktavatsalu Nayudu. |
| 7. " P. Anjaneyulu. | 25. Sriman Bisvanath Das Mahasayo. |
| 8. " K. Koti Reddi. | 26. Mr. A. Kaleswara Rao. |
| 9. " S. Muttayya Mudaliyar. | 27. " R. Srinivasa Ayyangar. |
| 10. " P. C. Venkatapati Raju. | 28. Natam Dubhash Kadir Sahib Syed Ibrahim Sahib Bahadur. |
| 11. " C. S. Govindaraja Mudaliyar. | 29. Mr. K. S. Sivasubrahmanya Ayyar. |
| 12. " G. Harisarvottama Rao. | 30. " L. K. Tulasiram. |
| 13. " C. N. Mutturanga Mudaliyar. | 31. " K. R. Karant. |
| 14. " Abdul Hamid Khan. | 32. " K. V. Krishnaswami Nayakar. |
| 15. " K. V. R. Swami. | 33. " K. Madhavan Nayar. |
| 16. K. P. V. S. Muhammad Meera Ravuttar Bahadur. | 34. " C. Venkatarangam Nayudu. |
| 17. Mr. D. Narayana Raju. | 35. " B. Venkataratnam. |
| 18. Dr. B. S. Mallayya. | 36. " C. Gopala Menon. |
| | 37. " M. A. Manikkavelu Nayakar. |

Noes.

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| 1. The hon. Sir. C. P. Ramaswami Ayyar. | 28. Mr. M. V. Gangadhara Siva. |
| 2. " Mr. N. E. Marjoribanks. | 29. " W. P. A. Soundarapandiya Nadar. |
| 3. " Khan Bahadur Muhammad Usman Sahib Bahadur. | 30. " S. Subrahmanya Mooppanar. |
| 4. " Mr. T. E. Moir. | 31. Rao Sahib P. V. S. Sundaramurthi Pillai. |
| 5. " Mr. A. Ranganatha Mudaliyar. | 32. Mr. D. Thomas. |
| 6. " Dr. P. Subbarayan. | 33. " S. Venkayya. |
| 7. Mr. T. R. Venkatarama Sastriyar. | 34. " K. Krishnan. |
| 8. " J. F. Hall. | 35. The Zamindar of Gollapalli. |
| 9. " P. L. Moore. | 36. Swami A. S. Sahajanandam. |
| 10. " P. J. Gnanavaram Pillai. | 37. Rao Sahib R. Srinivasan. |
| 11. " G. T. Boag. | 38. Mr. H. F. P. Hearson. |
| 12. " V. Pandrang Rao. | 39. " C. R. T. Congreve. |
| 13. " S. H. Slater. | 40. " C. E. Wood. |
| 14. " C. B. Cotterell. | 41. Rao Sahib L. C. Guruswami. |
| 15. Khan Bahadur Muhammad Bazl-ul-lah Sahib Bahadur. | 42. Mr. V. I. Muniswami Pillai. |
| 16. The Zamindar of Seithur. | 43. The Raja of Panagal. |
| 17. Mr. Abbas Ali Khan. | 44. Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. Patro. |
| 18. " H. B. Ari Gowder. | 45. Mr. B. Ramachandra Reddi. |
| 19. " A. Balakrishna Shetty. | 46. Diwan Bahadur M. Krishnan Nayar. |
| 20. " J. Bheemayya. | 47. Mr. S. N. Dorai Raja. |
| 21. " J. A. David. | 48. Diwan Bahadur P. C. Ethirajulu Nayudu. |
| 22. Rao Sahib M. Hampayya. | 49. " S. Kumaraswami Reddiyar. |
| 23. Mr. Muppil Nayar of Kavalappara. | 50. Rao Bahadur B. Muniswami Nayudu. |
| 24. " R. Nagan Gowda. | 51. Mr. K. Ramaohandra Padayachi. |
| 25. Subadar-Major S. A. Nanjappa Bahadur. | 52. " K. Saraba Reddi. |
| 26. Mr. C. R. Parthasarathi Ayyangar. | 53. Rao Bahadur K. Sitarama Reddi. |
| 27. " N. Siva Raj. | 54. The Zamindar of Mirzapuram. |

Ayes 37. Noes 54.

The motion was lost.

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* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—“ I shall now put the demand to the vote of the House. The question is

‘ that Government be granted a sum not exceeding 29·45 lakhs under Demand XIV—Jails, for the year 1927-28 ’.”

The motion was carried and the grant was made.

DEMAND XV—POLICE.

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—“ On the recommendation of His Excellency the Governor I have to move

‘ that Government be granted a sum not exceeding Rs. 151·86 lakhs for Police ’.”

Mr. SAMI VENKATACHALAM CHETTI :—“ Sir, in respect of this Demand of the motions of which notice was given by the members of my party I am to state that excepting motions “659 and “666 the others will not be moved.”

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—“ I think it will be for the convenience of the House if the hon. Member, Mr. Sami Venkatachalam Chetti, hands over these intimations to the Secretary so that he may re-arrange the motions.”

* Rao Sahib R. SRINIVASAN :—“ I move

‘ to reduce the allotment of Rs. 80,75,000 for Police Force, General, permanent, by Rs. 100.’

“ We have often asked this question in the previous years. I want to know the number of head constables and constables recruited from the depressed classes during the last 12 months.”

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—“ I think it is only a question that the hon. Member puts. So I do not propose to put any question to the House. The motion will be deemed to have been withdrawn.”

Mr. M. V. GANGADHARA SIVA :—“ I move—

‘ to reduce the allotment of Rs. 78,900 for Police Force, General, temporary, by Rs. 100.’

“ My object is to discuss the desirability of recruiting 20 per cent of constables from the depressed classes community every year in the Police department. The main object of this motion is to bring to the notice of the Government the necessity of recruiting a fair percentage, of Police constables and other officers of the department from the members of the depressed classes. Though all communities are eligible for Government appointments, it is however seen that the members of the depressed classes do not get the encouragement they deserve in the department. I can say, Sir, that the

* (659) Mr. SAMI VENKATACHALAM CHETTI,—

Mr. S. SATTAMURTI :—

To omit the allotment of Rs. 4,39,600 for Special Police.

(To discuss the need for this Special Police).

(666) Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR,—

Diwan Bahadur M. KRISHNAN NAYAR,—

Sriman BISWANATH DAS Mahasaya,—

Mr. P. BHAKTAVATSULU NAYUDU :—

To reduce the allotment of Rs. 151·86 lakhs for Police by 5 lakhs.

[Mr. M. V. Gangadhara Siva]

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so-called depressed classes may be called the modern Rajputs, for their bold and heroic deeds in the recent war. It is we, the depressed classes, who stand first in the military service more than the other communities. For these reasons, I can say that we deserve encouragement in the Police and in the Military departments. These are the last two doors open for us. In my own district, though there are 9 inspectors, 47 sub-inspectors, 77 head constables and 700 constables the number of the depressed classes men is very small in the various grades. I believe this is the case in other districts also. The claims of a sub-inspector who is a member of the depressed classes in my district, who is not only known to be efficient but has got a good record of service have not been properly considered for the appointment of an inspector. The much talked of efficiency, I believe, does not stand in the way of recruiting police constables from the members of the depressed classes. Any one with a knowledge of the three R's will shine as a constable, provided he is honest. The members of the depressed classes community are very loyal to the Government from the beginning of their settlement in India and as such, I want to urge upon the Government the reasonableness of recruiting at least 20 per cent of constables from the depressed classes community each year. This sort of encouragement will appeal to the depressed classes men and will improve their social status, when they come in immediate contact with their Hindu brethren, with a little power as a constable in a village, in a district and in a City. I request the hon. the Law Member not to rest content with passing Government Orders but to urge on the District Superintendents of Police and to see that they recruit 20 per cent of constables from the depressed classes compulsorily and that they give preference to this community for higher grades in the department which they rightly deserve."

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—"Mr. President, Sir, on more than one occasion on the floor of this House, the claims of the depressed communities to representation in the constabulary and the higher ranks of the police service have been pressed forward and on each one of these occasions, Sir, I have communicated the reasons for the paucity of members as appearing on the actual list. In the first place, it is a well-known fact and it is true that there is a large number of members of the depressed classes actually in service as constables and as sub-inspectors, but they do not give their names under the heading of their community. That is on account of certain social and other environments and troubles upon which it is unnecessary on this occasion to dwell. But the fact remains, and it was pointed out on one occasion when an hon. Member confirmed that statement by advertance to his own experience in one particular case. But, Sir, having regard to the circumstances that the demand is general, and, if I may say so, justified, that these communities should have representation in the service, periodical reminders have been addressed by Government to the appointing authorities through the Inspector-General of Police and the Commissioner of Police, and I may say, Sir, that during the last year, up to the 18th of March, the recruitment of constables and head constables from these communities has been 11 per cent in the Madras City and 17 per cent in the mufassal. As I said, these figures are not wholly trustworthy inasmuch as there are a number of persons who belong to these communities and are recruited but who do not wish that their classification should appear on the official list as such. But, Sir, I shall bear in mind what has fallen from the hon. Member, and impress again upon the Inspector-General of Police and the Commissioner of

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Police the necessity, the expediency of recruiting in as large a number as possible and in promoting to higher grades, those fit persons from these communities.”

Mr. M. V. GANGADHARA SIVA :—“ In view of the assurance, I do not press the motion.”

The motion was by leave withdrawn.

* Mr. B. RAMACHANDRA REDDI :—“ Mr. President, Sir, I move—

‘ that the allotment of Rs. 1,23,400 for pay of establishments be reduced by Rs. 100.’

“ Sir, to my mind, if there is any department under this Government that is paid for doing nothing (Hear, hear), paid for doing what is not wanted, it is, I think, the Criminal Investigation Department (Hear, hear). As far as I could see, the department has been always attaching itself with the detection of political crimes in this Presidency. (The hon. Sir C. P. Ramaswami Ayyar : ‘ Not now.’) I hear a voice, probably from the hon. the Law Member, that it is not doing so now, and my only answer to that is that it is not doing even that. I wish to point out a few things, a few things which go to show the extravagance with which this department is run, and also to point out that the department is quite unnecessary for the work that it is doing now. Take the district crimes first and examine the question from that point of view. No officer of the Criminal Investigation Department can do independent investigation in the district without the help of the local police. As a matter of fact, all crime connected with property and life is being investigated by the local police of every district, and the Criminal Investigation Department officers have seldom been called for, and even the work done, so far as they have been able to do in the districts, was entirely with the help of the local police. To disprove this statement, I may request the hon. the Law Member to tell me how many District Collectors have asked within the last five years for special Criminal Investigation Department establishment to investigate crime, and how many cases that have been launched by them have failed, and how many cases launched by the district police have been successful. I see from certain reports that the Criminal Investigation Department establishment is purely concentrated in the Madras City, at a place where it is little needed, at a place where other activities are found that do not require their investigation. I do not find any reason why that concentration should be made in the Madras City. It reminds me of that famous proverb, ‘ the nearer the church the farther from God.’ I should say at once that the reform should begin in the Madras City, and I may suggest, Sir, at this stage that greater attention should be paid to send these Criminal Investigation Department officers to the districts to investigate crimes and to have first hand knowledge of the districts, so that they might successfully investigate crimes. As it is, the Criminal Investigation Department establishment is perhaps either not sent immediately or sent a few days after they are wanted in the districts, and therefore they would depend upon the local police for all their investigation. Now, the hon. the Law Member may say that the chief duty of the Criminal Investigation Department is not to investigate. Of course, I know, Sir, that the name has recently been naively changed from ‘ Investigation ’ to ‘ Intelligence.’ But the purpose with which the department has been brought into existence, I think, has not been changed, and I hope, Sir, that the purpose will be kept in mind, and that the reform that is necessary will be made at an

[Mr. B. Ramachandra Reddi]

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early date regarding this matter. I can understand His Excellency the Governor being followed by a special Criminal Investigation Department officer. Even there, I should think that he is superfluous. For every District Superintendent of Police follows His Excellency when he goes in his special train, throughout his district and safeguards the special train as well as His Excellency, and further a special staff is arranged to take care of the line in which the train of His Excellency passes. I do not, therefore, find any necessity for a special Criminal Investigation Department staff following His Excellency throughout his tours. That, I think, is superfluous. I was saying, Sir, that I could understand Criminal Investigation Department officers following His Excellency the Governor, but I certainly cannot understand Criminal Investigation Department officers following other Government Members when they are going on tours. If my information is correct, very recently a certain Criminal Investigation Department officer has followed one Government Member to a distant place. (*The hon. Sir C. P. Ramaswami Ayyar: Question.*) If he has gone on another duty or on Criminal Investigation Department work, I am not able to say, and if he has not gone on duty as Criminal Investigation Department I hope the hon. the Law Member will correct me.

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—“ A statement has been made which I think it is my duty to correct. I think the hon. Member from Nellore was referring . . . ”

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—“ Has he made any incorrect statement ? ”

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—“ Yes, Sir. The incorrect statement is that Criminal Investigation Department officers follow the Members of Government when they go outside Madras. Apparently, the reference is to myself. A Criminal Investigation Department officer was sent for by special telegram to Delhi. He went not in connection with my tours but he was in Delhi when I was doing some work in connection with the Central Branch of the Criminal Investigation Department and from that to conclude that he has followed me on my tour is a statement which ought not to be made by a responsible Member like the hon. Member from Nellore on the floor of this House.”

MR. G. HARISARVOTTAMA RAO :—“ Rather a peculiar coincidence ! ”

* MR. B. RAMACHANDRA REDDI :—“ My purpose, Sir, in moving this motion is to point out the extravagance of this department, the disutility of this department. I hope the hon. the Law Member will soon see his way to make the necessary reforms.”

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—“ The question is to reduce the allotment of Rs. 1,23,400 for pay of establishments by Rs. 100. I wish to know from the hon. Member, Mr. Arpudaswami Udayar, whether he wants to move his motion regarding the same subject.”

MR. S. ARPUDASWAMI UDAYAR :—“ If you will allow me, Sir, I will speak on this motion ? ”

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—“ He has tabled a motion regarding the reduction of pay of establishments. Does it relate to the same subject-matter ? I am asking him because he has mentioned no purpose under his motion.”

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* **Mr. S. ARPUDASWAMI UDAYAR** :—“ Yes, Sir, I will speak on this motion. From the Administration Report, I find, Sir, that this department has been going on with the investigation of cases of forgery, murder, etc. I think it is unnecessary to have a re-duplication of work; it is quite possible to have it done by the police. I think, Sir, special Criminal Investigation Department officers are not necessary to do this kind of detective work. My second reason is that, as the hon. the Law Member just now said, these officers are not investigating political crime. In fact, under the normal conditions that obtain in this province and in the absence of any kind of sedition, there is no scope whatever for these officers to investigate political crime. Thirdly, Sir, if they are sent to mix *in cognito* with the people and get information and thus help the detection of crime, I think we are adopting methods which are altogether un-British. That is, as it were, putting a premium on espionage. That may do in the Latin countries on the continent, but not in countries which are placed under British rule.”

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—“ Mr. President, the speech of my hon. Friend from Nellore and the speech of my hon. Friend from Trichinopoly, I think, proceeded on fundamental misconceptions. I had almost said that these misconceptions were of a piece with the suggestion somewhat facetiously made and somewhat trustfully accepted, that because a Criminal Investigation Department officer on duty of a very important character was sent over to Delhi by the Central authority and travelled a week in advance of me and was in Delhi about the time I was there, he was a kind of bodyguard to a member of this Government. This kind of statement, I think, is of the same character as the description given of the Criminal Investigation Department.

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“ Now let me say this, Sir. I think it must be admitted on all hands, and I say it from my place in this House, that it is not true to say of this Criminal Investigation Department that their main or predominant function is to watch political personages, to shadow them or to get trail of them and that they are not called upon to do these at the present moment, and that they are not also largely occupied with political work. It must be within the knowledge of the Members of this House that the number of political prosecutions, the number of political proceedings, civil or criminal, started in regard to political matters has been practically nil during the last two or three years. The hon. Members can take it, that the work of the Criminal Investigation Department—the bulk of their work—is not that. I do not mean to assert from that that there is no political work. There is political work of paramount importance (*Mr. C. V. Venkataramana Ayyangar*: *What is it?*), political work necessary for the defence and safety of this country on which they are engaged. (*Mr. S. Satyamurti*: *Oh!*) My hon. Friend either does not believe it or affects not to believe it. (*Mr. S. Satyamurti*: *“I won't believe it.”*) They may not believe it but the nature of the work is such that I cannot tell you of it. In no country in the world and in no Government in the world would it be possible for a Member in charge of the Criminal Investigation Department to get up from his seat in the Legislature and say that such and such are the items of work which are of a political or quasi-political character and such and such are the things which have come within his cognisance. Suffice it to say that but for the work of the Criminal Investigation Department, co-ordinating what took place in Madras, with what took

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place in Bombay and in the United Provinces, the communist conspiracy in Cawnpore which ended in the conviction of three important persons would not have come to a successful fruition. I do not wish to say more. This has come into the purview of the records and the judgment in that conspiracy case is there for any one to read. All I can say is, that these communist conspiracy cases were the result of careful co-ordinative investigation by the Criminal Investigation Department of Madras, the Criminal Investigation Department of Bombay and the Criminal Investigation Department of the United Provinces. Hon. Members may think that the Government is scare-mongering and that they are making a mountain out of a molehill. But Government have their own ideas and have come to the conclusion on them, and it is impossible for me, even were I permitted, by the oaths of office I have taken, to disclose the actual details of the work which the Criminal Investigation Department does. That is one aspect of the case. But that is not the first or the primary object of the Criminal Investigation Department. In every district, there is a Criminal Investigation Department staff, inspectors and a certain number of other men who do the work of what may be called, following up organized crime. In this connection, let me remind hon. Members of what the Indian Police Commissioner said in 1902-03 as the function of the department. (*Mr. Satyamurti: That is a quarter of a century old.*) Sir, crime is as old as the world, crime is not changing. The methods of crime may have been more carefully organized, and more scientifically elaborated. But the ideas which animate the crime are there and unfortunately have not been eradicated by the progress of humanity. The function of the Criminal Investigation Department is the collection of information with reference to such forms of organised crime as are committed by offenders operating along the railway systems, . . . criminal tribes, foreigners, wandering gangs, dacoits, note-forgers, coiners, professional poisoners and the like.

"In connection with this, there is a Finger Print Bureau at work. As to the scepticism which animates the hon. Member for the University when he was making these interjections, not verbal but symbolic, when he begs leave to doubt the accuracy or the truth of my statements with reference to that, all I can say is that the Criminal Investigation Department is serving a useful purpose from the point of view of the body politic, and in so far as they are the necessary concomitants of any police system in any part of the world, I trust this hon. House will realize that and give their vote accordingly."

* Mr. S. SATYAMURTI.—"Sir, my hon. Friend, the Law Member, talked of fundamental misconceptions. I am afraid the boot is on the other leg. There are no fundamental misconceptions on this side of the House with regard to this matter. If there are, they are in the mind of the hon. the Law Member. He comes and asks for a grant; we move for a reduction; his answer is: 'I cannot tell you the nature of the duties of the Criminal Investigation Department for which I want so much money; and since, according to my wisdom, I cannot take you into my confidence, be good boys and vote for this sum.' No more futile excuse can be given by a responsible Government to a self-respecting House. Nobody suggests that my Friend should come down here and tell us what are the cases on which the department is engaged. We have no interest or desire to ask that. But we are entitled, Mr. President, to know what is the nature of the work on which this huge Criminal Investigation Department is engaging itself.

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"My hon. Friend referred to a report made a quarter of a century ago, as to what the functions of the Criminal Investigation Department are. If you refer to a Dictionary for the meaning of a word, it will give all possible meanings, until you do not know what is the exact meaning of that word. Similarly, my Friend read so many of the functions of this department including professional poisoners being found out. I do not know if my Friend was taking himself seriously, when he read the definition of the possible functions of a Criminal Investigation Department in an ideally criminal country. That is the only country in which that department may be of any use. I do not want him to give this certificate to our country. I daresay that cannot be said with regard to India, and certainly not with regard to Madras. Whatever my Friend may say about the detection of crimes by the activities of this department, we know from thefts which happened in Madras, attempted in your house and probably in the Law Member's house (*laughter*), that this department is notorious for its inefficiency. (*The hon. the Law Member : Most of them have been caught, Sir.*) (*Laughter.*) The stable has been shut after the steed has been stolen."

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—"Some of the steeds have come back."

* Mr. S. SATYAMURTI :—"I thought, Mr. President, that the peculiar function of the Criminal Investigation Department was more to prevent crime than to detect crime. Evidently, my hon. Friend has yet to learn what this department is working for. But I do suggest that if his department can do nothing to prevent even the theft in the Law Member's house, it is time that this department is shut up. So far as we non-officials are concerned, we know this department. Only on occasions, when the Viceroy or the Governor comes, an army of them swarm round these exalted personages keeping humble folk like us from coming near—we do not care to go near them—and keeping those who care to do so, at arm's length, lest these sacred personages be polluted by the touch of the ordinary humdrum prosaic people, while belted and knighted people stand keeping a cordon round them. This is the function they do. Another function is, I had the honour a few years ago of being shadowed by two fellows who were hanging about my house, if you go anywhere, they follow you; Mr. Harisarvottama Rao had this honour, and several of us had it. We had the honour of two honorary servants paid by Government watching our movements and reporting about us to the Government. The Law Member also has had that honour, but when he comes to the Treasury bench, he forgets all that. That is the tragedy of that bench."

"Then, the hon. the Law Member said there were no political prosecutions; therefore this department was not now engaged on political work. I want my hon. Friend to realize the full implications of that."

"The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—"I said 'not largely occupied with political work'."

* Mr. S. SATYAMURTI :—"Does he mean that there are no political prosecutions, because this department is not engaged in manufacturing them? That, I know, is a fact. But, Sir, there is one aspect of this department which makes it thoroughly futile for any real effective work, that is, the exclusion of Indians from the Special department. There are six of them, Europeans and Anglo-Indians; but they will not have Indians. The Law

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Member may be an Indian, the Advocate-General may be an Indian, but this special department shall never have an Indian. Because they have got something to do with the detection of political crime !

"One last word and I have done. My hon. Friend said that he cannot tell us how this department is functioning ; he cannot tell us what their functions are, but he asks us confidently to trust him and vote with him. I wish I can take him at his word. There is no question of personality here at all. But the system he represents is so rotten, the departments which are in his charge are so anti-Indian, that I for myself refuse to take anything on trust from him so long as he occupies that bench. Therefore I say that the very nature of the answer of my hon. Friend who cannot tell us what the functions of the department are, except reading from a report 25 years old, is so unsatisfactory that we cannot bring ourselves to vote for this sum."

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—"Mr. President, Sir, I had not intended to reply to this debate, but the very clever speech of my hon. Friend the Member for the University intended to draw me out into a fuller statement of the functions of this department, has impelled me to say a few words. I believe that my hon. Friend, a diligent publicist and a student of blue books and documents that he is, would have read the administration reports of the successive years for the Madras Presidency. Turning over, for instance, to the administration reports of 1924-25, 1925-26, these administration reports give a list of cases worked up by the C.I.D. Let me refer to the administration report for 1924. The criminal breaches investigated fall under the categories of murder, criminal breach of trust, cheating, forgery, postal frauds and offences in respect of coins and notes. Details are given of these cases. Similarly, in the administration report of 1925-26, the investigation of this department included cases of murder, forgery, false coining (*A voice : How many ?*) cheating and postal fraud. A further reference to the administration report will detail the actual figures. (*Mr. C. V. Venkataramana Ayyangar. What are the ordinary police for ?*) As I have stated, the ordinary police can act within certain limits. Many of these reported cases are cases of persons who reside in more than one place and are wanderers. There are organized crimes. For instance, reference was made by my hon. Friend to this question of thefts in certain persons' houses and I am glad to say that it is wholly a personal reminiscence, that the attempt was merely an attempt. But my hon. Friend is very much mistaken in thinking that but for the C.I.D. these things would have been found out. It was the special effort of persons detailed for that work that found out the persons operating far away, as in the United Provinces, with centres all over the country, but with a receiver in Georgetown to operate for the purpose of sending out their instruments into the various houses—breakers open of doors and pullers of iron bars—and that, being a kind of defeasance of the C.I.D. activities, had well nigh proved to be well directed and successful. Then my hon. Friend adverted to political cases and made a very adroit use of what I said. I stated that it was obvious and manifest from the circumstances that there were not many political prosecutions, there was not much predominantly political work done by them ; though I guarded myself by saying that there was still a great deal of political work which had not found expression in such cases. But my hon. Friend wound up his statement by

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anathematising this department on the ground that there were no Indians in the Special department. There are six clerks at present and there are no Indians amongst these six, because those already existing cannot be massacred, they cannot be murdered, they cannot be killed." (*Laughter.*)

Mr. S. SATYAMURTI :—"On a point of personal explanation ; some of them were appointed overlooking the Indians' claims by the Law Member without any massacre or murder."

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—"Steps will be taken to Indianise the department. But I may say that, at this moment, one of the most trusted and effective persons in the service of the C.I.D. is an Indian whose work is bringing him encomia not only from this Government but from other Governments also."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—"I take it that the House is ready for the question. The question is

'to reduce the allotment of Rs. 1,23,400 for pay of establishments by Rs. 100.'"

The motion was put and lost.

* Mr. S. SATYAMURTI :—"Sir, it is a far cry from the C.I.D. to the Special Police. I do hope that the hon. the Law Member will have no objection under the Official Secrets Act to take into confidence this House as to why this Special Police should be kept up. Turning, Sir, to page 197 of the Civil Budget Estimates I find that this grant is made up of

	RS.
(i) Special Police, Malabar ..	3,26,900 voted and 15,100 non-voted
(ii) Special Police, East Coast ..	1,12,700 voted and 19,000 non-voted

making up a total of Rs. 4,39,600, voted alone.

"Sir, hon. Members will notice, looking at the figures as given on that page that while the voted allotment for the Special Police, Malabar, in 1925-26 was Rs. 2,63,535 it has almost progressively increased till to-day when my hon. Friend wants Rs. 3,26,900 or nearly 75,000 more. The voted allotment for Special Police, East Coast, in 1925-26 was Rs. 90,922 and to-day the hon. Member wants Rs. 1,12,700. So that, Sir, the expenses on this Police have continually increased. This police is wanted, I am told, in order to restore Malabar to its tranquil state before the rebellion and also for the Agency tracts so that they may be brought within the bounds of peace and order. Mr. President, I suggest that if this police were really wanted and had functioned efficiently and properly, gradually their work should have been effective, so that the Government should have come year after year with a demand progressively smaller in amount. On the other hand, this police seems to grow on what it feeds and, year after year, my hon. Friend the Law Member comes to this House and says : 'There is something peculiar about Malabar. There is something peculiar about the Agency tracts. Therefore you must vote for this Special Police.' I may mention to this House, Mr. President, that ever since I have been here, almost every progressive section of opinion in this House has been against the special police. Taking Malabar by itself, I wonder what the ideas of this Government are with

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regard to it. Are they going to keep these Mappilla prisoners in jails? Are they going to keep the special police in Malabar? Are they going to persist in the Mappilla colonization of the Andamans till another rebellion breaks out? It seems to me that their policy towards Malabar is not marked by that sense of humanity and justice calculated to make of Malabar once more the happy land she was before the rebellion, and which happy land she may be, if only the Government will let her alone. Why should they keep the special police there? I know, my hon. Friend will say that the Hindu inhabitants of Malabar want the special police and that they are afraid if the special police is withdrawn their homes and their women also will not be safe. My point is, they may say it or they may not say it; the Government must tell the Malabar people that they must settle their differences and that the taxpayer ought not to be compelled to pay year after year in order to keep Mappillas in order against a possible attack on the Hindus. Speaking for the Congress Party in this House, I may say, Mr. President, that so far as we are concerned we are willing that the special police may go and that the ordinary police may be entrusted with the duties of keeping peace and order in Malabar. More than that, we believe that that is the only way in which the Hindus and Mussalmans will again work and live in peace and concord and amity in Malabar as we want them to live.

“As regards the Agency tracts, I am afraid that the Government will never tackle that problem in the only way in which it can be tackled. So long as they can get the consent of this House for the special police, they will not be able to tackle that problem. Because, the moment they get the special police, their ordinary responsibilities for enforcing law and order by means of the ordinary courts and the ordinary police is lessened and, human nature being what it is, Government will tend rather to rely more and more upon their special police, than upon developing those instincts of law and order even in those so-called turbulent tracts, so that they may do away with the special police. It seems to me that, we, to the extent to which we can, ought not to make ourselves responsible for this somewhat primitive and barbarous method of Government of terrorising the people and of governing by force which this special police connotes. I therefore beg to move, Mr. President,

‘that the allotment of Rs. 4,39,600 for Special Police be omitted.’”

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—“Mr. President, Sir, my hon. Friend the Member for the University was doubtless present last year when a similar question was raised and debated on the floor of this House. There are two questions raised in the speech made by the hon. Member with which I shall deal separately.

“In the first place, he said that the Government ought to follow a logical policy in the matter of Malabar and the pacification of Malabar. Yes. That is just what the Government are doing. If hon. Members had listened to the statement made by me with reference to the Mappilla prisoners and their release, they would not accuse the Government of any lack of sympathy towards those who were misguided into participation in the rebellion. But at the same time, it is open to me to argue and argue with some force, that the very circumstance that the Government have made up their minds to release such a large number will be a further necessity for the time being to keep up this Malabar Special Police. Year in and year out, on the floor of this House, hon. Members hailing from Malabar have asserted, in unmistakable language,

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that although they hope and pray that the conditions in Malabar may improve to such an extent that the necessity for this force may disappear in course of time, although they believe and fervently work for mutual reconciliation between Mappillas and their neighbours, yet the time is emphatically not yet come. The passions stirred by the unfortunate incidents in connexion with the Mappilla rebellion and the difficulties engendered by that event are still fresh in the memory of the inhabitants of that beautiful but distracted district with the result that the Hindus of Malabar to a large extent and even the Muhammadans who know the actual situation and are able to appraise the consequences of everything that might happen, are convinced that it is necessary at certain important points to station forces which will bring about what my hon. and learned Friend has spoken of in relation to another demand. He said in regard to the Criminal Investigation department that the object of that department was preventive and not *curative*. Yes. That is the object of stationing the special police at Malabar. It is expected, it is confidently hoped, that if people know that there are at hand forces which will quell possible disorders like the debacle of 1921-22 in that unfortunate district, then the possibility of pacification, of reconciliation, and of harmonization between the various communities would be expedited instead of delayed and would be helped instead of hindered. It is with that view that the Government came to the conclusion that the Malabar Special Police was necessary. The Government would not scatter their money about if they did not honestly feel that it was necessary to have all this machinery, a commandant and various forces in Malabar. Does any hon. Member think that the Government want the special police in Malabar for any other purpose? (*Mr. S. Satyamurti*: 'Yes'.) My hon. Friend says 'Yes'. It is a debating 'Yes'. I feel sure it is a debating 'Yes'. As I was saying, Sir, I am sure hon. Members from Malabar who know the circumstances, who know the difficulties, will rally round the Government in this matter and with one voice say that it is necessary at the present moment to keep the special police in Malabar.

"Then with regard to the Agency, similar problems arise regarding the fituri. Nobody can deny the meaning of the fituri. (*Mr. S. Satyamurti*: '*In spite of your police it is there.*') If all that led to the fituri, if the propaganda that the Government of the country was no more and that another Government was going to take its place and that A or B was to be the Raj of that part of the country consisting of credulous people was repeated and thereupon they rose in rebellion, what can the ordinary police do? The police are there for what may be called the ordinary work of keeping peace. If there is anything like a rebellion we rather think that that is not the function of the police. It is the function of forces of this kind. Hon. Members will realize that the Government considered this matter in 1925 and in 1926 again and they have organized this force with a view to economy. I confidently hope therefore that in this matter the Government's motives will be realized and that it will be seen that the only object of maintaining the force is to introduce tranquillity and peace in areas where there is a jeopardy of tranquillity and peace."

MR. P. C. VENKATAPATI RAJU :—"Mr. President, Sir, the hon. the Law Member in trying to justify this unnecessary item of expenditure on special police force said that, if he was not convinced of the usefulness of maintaining or spending so much money upon the special force, he would be the first to delete that provision. But at the same time he gave his own reasons, in spite

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of the unanimous desire expressed both in this House and elsewhere, for its necessity. He says that he is entertaining this force for the tranquillity and peace of Malabar and the East Coast districts. This extra expenditure is the result of the Malabar rebellion and the fituri. With regard to the Malabar rebellion it is due to the attitude of the Government after the rebellion that this estrangement between the Hindus and the Muhammadans is continuing. Acts of the Government such as the detention of Mr. Narayana Menon in jail and the detention of so many Mappilla prisoners also and sending many of them to the Andamans against the wishes of the House, are responsible for keeping the two communities estranged and preventing them from coming to an amicable settlement. With regard to the Agency, the hon. the Law Member gave expression to words which meant that this force was continued on account of the attempt on the part of some people there to establish another Raj. On the other hand, the trouble was due to the oppression or rather the oppressive management of the affairs of the Agency. Even the special officers who were appointed to investigate into the causes of the fituri have brought out in their report that the cause of the fituri was the unsympathetic, for they would not say, oppressive, administration by the Public Works Department and the Revenue officers of the Agency. After all the fituri was not quelled by this special police. The special police now consists of about 250 constables. If another rebellion on a greater scale is to break out, if an attempt is made to establish another Raj in the place of the British Raj, does the hon. the Law Member think that these 250 men can deal with the situation adequately even though they may be aided by the military? After the development of communications in the Agency, any special force that is necessary can be sent to that place very quickly and it is unnecessary to station a special force on the East Coast. Generally, the people there, are law-abiding and they will subject themselves to any sort of oppression before they give expression to it in strong terms. In the time of the fituri, the fiturists never looted the villages. They took some defensive measures. They were obliged to commit some sort of crimes. Otherwise, they were free from any kind of crimes. This is a fact which is to be noted with regard to the Agency fituri. Considering the development of communications and the law-abiding nature of the people, I think there is no necessity for continuing this East Coast Special Police. As for the promise given by the hon. the Law Member that Government would not waste their money on this account, he will find that this force is not at all necessary and any sum spent upon it is a waste."

* Mr. K. KRISHNAN :—"Mr. President, Sir, I entirely endorse every word of what the hon. the Law Member said regarding the necessity for the special police for Malabar. (*Cries of 'Whip'*). I repudiate the suggestion of whip. I wanted to speak earlier.

"Before the rebellion started, there was a small European force at Malappuram consisting of 100 soldiers. When there was a cessation of the rebellion for some time, Government, unfortunately, I may rather say, foolishly, thought that there was no necessity to keep this regiment there and removed it. Immediately afterwards there was this rebellion. It was freely talked about in Malabar that the Europeans had been taken away and that there was no necessity whatever for the Europeans to remain in Malabar. They then started the rebellion under that wrong impression. People here do not realize the situation in Malabar. If the military

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is stationed in or about the place likely to be affected, no rebellion will occur. I am not talking of the Mappillas in general; I am only referring to the ignorant, fanatical Mappillas in whose midst the military must be stationed. I do not think any one will doubt the necessity for it. As a matter of fact, I may say, that if just before the rebellion 100 European soldiers had been posted at Mallapuram, the rebellion would have come to an end within the first few days and would not have spread so far. For want of prompt action at the proper moment, the rebellion spread and the subsequent events happened. I therefore urge that a special force should be stationed in any place which is likely to be affected so that they may take prompt action in cases of emergency. I strongly endorse the remarks of the hon. the Law Member."

* **MR. K. MADHAVAN NAYAR** :—"Mr. President, Sir, not only do I belong to the Malabar district, but I come from the rebel area itself, and I am sent down here as a representative of the Hindu community. I really understand and sympathize with some of the statements of the hon. the Law Member and, as a matter of fact, I know that one of the contributory causes of the rebellion was the wrong notion in the minds of the Mappillas that the British power was waning. I also believe that if a small military force had been stationed in Mallapuram at the time of the rebellion in 1921, it would not have assumed the proportions it did assume and would have subsided soon. I believe all that. But in spite of all this, I submit that there is absolutely no necessity at this distance of time, five years after the rebellion, when the two communities have settled down to a life of peace and amity, to have special police stationed at so many places proving a nuisance to the people of the locality and causing heavy expenditure to the Government. Mallapuram was a military station some years before 1921. One hundred or one hundred and fifty British soldiers were stationed there. There was a special force also of 80 police men. These were the two forces stationed there. Though Malabar had the misfortune of being subjected to Mappilla riots for over a period of 100 years, you will see that from 1897 to 1920 there was not a single Mappilla riot or outbreak. In 1896 there was a riot when about 100 fanatic Mappillas burst out into a fanatic outbreak and were finally killed at a temple called Kunnath in Manjeri. I was then a student in the Manjeri school. In 1897, some prisoners escaped from the prison and they also created some trouble. But between 1897 and 1920, there was no trouble. A military force of 100 and a special police force of 80 were stationed at Mallapuram. What they used to do was this. During the Ramzan, small contingents of these soldiers and police would go to the fanatical centres and watch if any trouble was brewing. That was what they were doing and during these twenty years there was no trouble at all. The recent rebellion was due to special causes and broke out under exceptional circumstances. I can concede that if, as before, a small force had been stationed at Mallapuram the Mappillas would not have rushed into a rebellion so easily. But all the same, I maintain that it is unnecessary to keep a special force of this great strength. It is enough if a military force of 100 and a special police force of 80 are stationed at Mallapuram instead of this costly special police. Though in the Punjab and in Northern India the Hindus and the Muhammadans are fighting with each other, in Malabar though the Hindus suffered very much during the rebellion, there is not much rancour left and both the communities are living side by side in peace and amity. Since there is now a railway running through

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the fanatic zone, you may station a small military force at Mallapuram or some other convenient centre, from which in case of emergency you can move the force to whatever places you want, and maintain peace and order. This is what you ought to do. If you had done that instead of making the military march through Ernad and Walluvanad 15 or 20 days after the outbreak of the rebellion, without stationing them in small batches in different places, the rebellion would not have prolonged and it would have been a nine days' wonder indeed. After the military left the place, there was a regular chaos in the country and persecution of the Hindus by the Mappillas who helped or supposed to have helped the military. All these things happened because during the time of the rebellion you did not do what you are now proposing to do, though then it was necessary that now after so many years and under different conditions quite unnecessary. What the Government ought to do now is to have a military station at Mallapuram and have a small police force there instead of having so many stations at different places involving such heavy expenditure and causing great nuisance to the people. This is what I submit in all earnestness and with sincerity that the Government should not spend money on the special force for the safety of the country and place such a heavy burden upon the general tax-payer."

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Mr. K. UPPI SAHIB:—"Sir, it is likely to be understood from the statement of the hon. the Law Member that the late rebellion was one between Hindus and Muhammadans, between the Mappillas and the Hindus of Malabar. Certainly my hon. Friends, Messrs. Madhavan Nayar, Krishnan Nayar and Krishnan, will admit that the rebellion was not between the Mappillas and the Hindus but between the Government and the Mappillas. The Hindus have suffered at the hands of the Mappillas; and I believe my hon. Friend, Mr. Madhavan Nayar, who was in the throes of the rebellion, will admit that Mappillas also have suffered at the hands of the rebels. Hundreds of Mappillas have been murdered by the rebels and have been looted by the rebels because they were helping the Government. I did not make any apologetic statement for the Mappillas' misdeeds or foolish acts perpetrated upon their sister community, the Hindu brethren. I might even now apologize most humbly to them for the excesses my foolish brethren who perpetrated atrocities on their neighbours, their Hindu brethren. The Government say that the Mappilla is a highly fanatical being, that he is ignorant and that he must be subjugated. I ask what is the reason for this. From the topmost officer, the then Viceroy, the then Governor and the then Home Member, Sir Arthur Knapp, all declared that it was all due to ignorance on the part of the Mappillas. To keep the military police or the special police, to terrorize the Mappillas and to check them, is that the method adopted for refining or reforming or educating the Mappillas? The Government say that the Hindus are afraid of Mappillas. I do not say that the Hindus should live in fear of Mappillas even for a moment. But there is no necessity under the existing circumstances, to keep a large extra force of about a thousand people. Mallapuram is a military station. From there Kottakkal is only six miles away and Kottakkal is a special police station. Tirurangadi is only four miles from the railway station at Parapanangadi. Angadipuram is only ten miles from Mallapuram. In Calicut, there are the reserve police and ordinary police and the military. In Mallapuram again, there are the military and the reserve police and the ordinary police. Is it because the military is so immovable that it cannot move even within a radius of six or ten miles in the case of an emergency that there is the need

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[Mr. K. Uppi Sahib]

for maintaining them at places so near each other? If the ordinary police cannot control the situation, there is the reserve police. If even they cannot control the situation, why do you want a special police which is a devilish power in the land and why not hand over the situation to the proper authorities, i.e., the military? Last year when a similar motion came up before the House, the Government stated that there was no railway line running through the country. The other day a railway line was opened reaching the innermost parts of Malabar and now you can move your forces as quickly and as easily as possible. In spite of all this, is it not a vindictive act to terrorize the Mappilla, to frighten him and to keep him in check always without giving him proper education? Such rebellions and such catastrophes are all admittedly due to the ignorance of the Mappillas. What have the Government done for ameliorating the Mappilla and for giving him proper education? The Government have not lifted their little finger in that respect. The Government did not even help those philanthropic Mappillas who came forward with a request that the middle school, the Madrasathul Muhammadiah at Calicut, might be raised to a high school for imparting free education to the Mappillas. The proposal was not countenanced by the late Government. Under these circumstances, I support the resolution heartily."

Mr. G. HARISARVOTTAMA RAO :—"Sir, I move that the question be now put."

*The hon. the PRESIDENT :—"Regarding closure motions, it is better if the House should adopt the convention that leaders or whips of parties should move such motions so that I may take it that at least one party is entirely in favour of the motion."

Mr. G. HARISARVOTTAMA RAO :—"I did so with the consent of my leader."

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—"Hereafter, I will not be prepared to use my discretion in favour of closure unless the closure motion is moved either by the whip or leader of the party."

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—"Sir, may I first deal with the points raised by my hon. Friend, Mr. Venkatapati Raju? He evidently spoke with a certain amount of earnestness on the matter of the East Coast Special Police. He said that the development of the Agency was the only cure and the only way of meeting the difficulty, if any there were. He traced the prior history and ascribed the fituri to two causes, viz., unsympathetic administration and oppressive management. In this grant and dealing with this matter, I do not propose to take the House back into the history of the events which led up to the rebellion. But I think Mr. Venkatapati Raju would be the first to admit that the fituri was occasioned by, and the result of, the primitive character of the uneducated folk who were induced to commit excesses by certain inducements and false hopes held out to them. He then wound up by saying, assuming that there was fituri, what could 200 armed men do? My answer is that 200 armed men would be a very great and effective preventive against that type or class of people, the primitive, untutored folk who inhabit the Agency tracts unto whom these 200 armed men would be sufficient to enforce a respect for the law. It is because the Government are convinced of this fact that they have retained this force. I think my hon. Friend may, very well, ask me to increase the number. I say he does not mean to do it."

"I shall turn to Malabar. Mr. Kotieth Krishnan has supported me and Mr. Madhavan Nayar—he will forgive me for saying so—has really supported

[Sir C. P. Ramaswami Ayyar]

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me though he has put forward certain other considerations. What he has stated is tantamount to this: 'Do not have 400 or 500 men situated in strategic points in Malabar; station a military force in some centre.' Well, the answer is this. The Government of India and the Military Department do not conceive it to be their duty to deal with what may be called the internal policing of the country by means of the military."

MR. K. MADHAVAN NAYAR :—"There is a military station in Mallapuram now."

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—"My hon. Friend will realize that this special force is gradually intended to replace the military in the Presidency so far as internal policing is concerned; and the idea is, so far as what may be called order and law within the Presidency is concerned, and in the absence of rebellions inviting rigorous armed force of the Crown, it is not the intention of the military to keep peace and order and to have such a kind of cooling and calming effect as is expected from this force. The object, in short, of the Malabar Special Police is to station a few men at all the danger points where there may be possible outbreaks. It is only for that purpose that the Malabar Special Force is contemplated. It is true that the opening of the Shoranur-Nilambur Railway with the possibility, as my hon. Friend says, of extending further, will make the two communities live together in peace and amity. It may be that later on the Government will have to consider wholly or partially its decision. In the present state of the country, with the feelings of the masses of the people as they are to-day, the Government feel it is impossible without abdicating their responsibility for the peace of Malabar, when there are potentialities that are likely to lead to outbreaks, to remove the Special Police Force."

The motion was put to the House and declared lost.

A poll was demanded and the House divided as follows :—

(While the division was being taken, the hon. Member, Mr. Saldanha, entered the House and took his seat.)

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—"The hon. Member is an experienced Member of the Council. He will kindly keep out of the Council till the division is over."

Ayes.

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|------------------------------------|---|
| 1. Mr. Sami Venkatachalam Chetti. | 21. Mr. R. Srinivasa Ayyangar. |
| 2. " S. Satyamurti. | 22. Nattam Dubash Kadir Sahib Syed Ibrahim Sahib. |
| 3. " C. V. Venkataramana Ayyangar. | 23. Mr. K. S. Sivasubrahmanya Ayyar. |
| 4. " T. Adinarayana Chetti. | 24. " K. R. Karant. |
| 5. " P. Anjaneyulu. | 25. " K. Krishnaswami Nayakar. |
| 6. " K. Koti Reddi. | 26. " K. Madhavan Nayar. |
| 7. " S. Muttayya Mudaliyar. | 27. " C. Gopala Menon. |
| 8. " C. S. Govindaraja Mudaliyar. | 28. " M. A. Manikkavelu Nayakar. |
| 9. " G. Harisavottama Rao. | 29. " B. Ramachandra Reddi. |
| 10. " C. N. Muthuranga Mudaliyar. | 30. Khan Bahadur S. K. Abdul Razack Sahib. |
| 11. " Abdul Hamid Khan. | 31. Mr. P. T. Rajan. |
| 12. " K. V. R. Swami | 32. " T. K. Chidambaranatha Mudaliyar. |
| 13. " D. Narayana Raju. | 33. Diwan Bahadur P. C. Ethirajulu Nayudu. |
| 14. Dr. B. S. Mallayya. | 34. " S. Kumaraswami Reddiyar. |
| 15. Mr. K. Uppi Sahib. | 35. Rao Bahadur B. Muniswami Nayudu. |
| 16. " C. Marudavanam Pillai. | 36. Mr. B. Sarabha Reddi. |
| 17. " O. Obi Reddi. | 37. Rao Bahadur K. Sitarama Reddi. |
| 18. " P. Bhaktavatsulu Nayudu. | 38. The Zamindar of Mirzapuram. |
| 19. Sriman Biswanath Das Mahasayo. | 39. Mr. B. Venkataratnam. |
| 20. Mr. A. Kaleswara Rao. | 40. " P. C. Venkatapati Raju. |

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Noes.

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|---|---|
| 1. The hon. Sir C. P. Ramaswami Ayyar. | 23. Mr. V. Ch. John. |
| 2. " Mr. N. E. Marjoribanks. | 24. " Kavallappara Muppil Nayar. |
| 3. " Khan Bahadur Muhammad Usman Sahib Bahadur. | 25. " R. Nagan Gowda. |
| 4. " Mr. T. E. Moir. | 26. Subadar Major S. A. Nanjappa Bahadur. |
| 5. " " A. Ranganatha Mudaliyar. | 27. Mr. T. M. Narayanaswami Pillai. |
| 6. " Dr. P. Subbarayan. | 28. " C. B. Parthasarathi Ayyangar. |
| 7. Mr. T. R. Venkatarama Sastriyar. | 29. " Ramanath Goenka. |
| 8. " J. F. Hall. | 30. " N. Siva Raj. |
| 9. " P. L. Moore. | 31. " M. V. Gangadhara Siva. |
| 10. " P. J. Gnanavaram Pillai. | 32. " T. C. Srinivasa Ayyangar. |
| 11. " G. T. Boag. | 33. " S. Subrahmanya Moopanar. |
| 12. " V. Pandrang Rao. | 34. Rao Sahib P. V. S. Sundaramurti. |
| 13. " S. H. Slater. | 35. Mr. D. Thomas. |
| 14. " C. B. Cotterell. | 36. " S. Venkayya. |
| 15. Khan Bahadur Muhammad Bazul-ul-lah Sahib. | 37. " K. Krishnan. |
| 16. The Zamindar of Seithur. | 38. The Zamindar of Gollapalli. |
| 17. Mr. Abbas Ali Khan. | 39. Mr. G. Premayya. |
| 18. " H. B. Ari Gowder. | 40. Swami A. S. Sahajanandam. |
| 19. " A. Balakrishna Shetti. | 41. Rao Sahib R. Srinivasan. |
| 20. " J. Bheemayya. | 42. Mr. H. F. P. Hearson. |
| 21. " J. A. Davis. | 43. " C. R. T. Congreve. |
| 22. Rai Sahib M. Hampayya. | 44. " C. E. Wood. |
| | 45. Rao Sahib L. C. Guruswami. |
| | 46. Mr. V. I. Muniswami Pillai. |

Neutral.

- | | |
|-----------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| 1. Mr. V. Vanavudaiya Goundar. | 4. The Raja of Panagal. |
| 2. " Tajudin. | 5. Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. Patro. |
| 3. The Kumararaja of Venkatagiri. | 6. Mr. K. Ramachandra Padayachi. |

Ayes 40. Noes 46, Neutral 6.

The motion was lost.

* Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR :—" Mr. President, Sir, I beg to move 4-45 p.m.

'that the allotment of Rs. 151.86 lakhs for Police be reduced by Rs. 5 lakhs.'

"I do not propose to speak at length, Sir, on this, because I see that the name of the hon. Diwan Bahadur Krishnan Nayar is next to my name on this motion and I have no doubt whatever that, with his ability and experience, he will be able to speak much better than myself and convince the people who have got any doubt on the matter that this cut must be carried. Sir, the very fact that, as an alternative, in the case of the defeat of this cut, there is a large reserve of members of the Justice Party who have given notice of a cut of Rs. 2 lakhs shows that a large portion of this House strongly feels that there should be a large cut made under this grant. So far as the growth of expenditure on this department is concerned, Sir, we see that the figures are appallingly fearful. In 1919-20, the expenditure was only Rs. 141 lakhs; in 1920-21 it went up to Rs. 178 lakhs, although the budget estimate was only about 146 lakhs. We will skip over some years and come to 1925-26. In that year, the expenditure was Rs. 187 lakhs, voted and non-voted items included. In 1926-27, it was only Rs. 188 lakhs, whereas in 1927-28 the hon. the Law Member wants us to sanction Rs. 7 lakhs more than even what has been found necessary for the current year, Rs. 7 lakhs more than what the revised estimate of 1926-27 shows. Therefore, Sir, it is quite evident to all the

[Mr. C. V. Venkataramana Ayyangar] [22nd March 1927]

Members of this House that practically in about six or seven years, the expenditure has gone up at the rate of about Rs. 10 lakhs every year, and the pace has been kept in 1925-26, 1926-27 and this year. One question which can be prominently thrown at our face is, 'How on earth are you going to reduce Rs. 5 lakhs? It is the duty of the Opposition to find out and offer constructive proposals for finding ways and means.' That is the usual cry of the hon. the Law Member. Whenever we suggest any reduction in the Police grant, he would say, 'Well, leave it to me, I shall try to reduce it as much as possible.' Very well, Sir, I must say that in 1926-27, he was able to reduce by Rs. 5 lakhs what was granted to him. That shows one important thing, that it is the habit of the hon. the Law Member to have always a large reserve at his back. If the hon. the Law Member came to ask us for Rs. 193 lakhs last year, and was yet able to manage with only Rs. 188 lakhs, does it not show that the reserve is always much more than necessary, so that at any time he may have plenty of patronage in his hands. That merely shows, Sir, that as an amount for retrenchment, this cut is a very desirable one to be carried by the House. There are indications given to us in the several motions relating to this grant to show that there are numerous ways in which retrenchment can be carried out. If two important motions for large cuts have been defeated by narrow majorities, I take it that it was because it was the sense of the majority of this House that the whole amounts for those items should not be taken away; but certainly, that there has been a large minority in favour of those cuts shows that the sense of this House is for an appreciable reduction in particular departments.

"Much has been said, Sir, about the Criminal Investigation Department and I do not want to say much on it now. If the Criminal Investigation Department is going to do the work of detection and prevention of crime, does the hon. the Law Member admit that the very large expenditure on ordinary police is extravagant? Either he must say that the general police are there for the work for which they are asked to be there, that the police officer is there to prevent and detect crime in the usual course of his business, or he must say that large and elaborate establishment is not able to cope with their work. We do say, Sir, that if the Criminal Investigation Department is necessary, there must be a considerable corresponding reduction in the general establishment of the Police department.

"Then, Sir, with regard to Indianisation, some of my friends will be better able to elaborate upon that; but I may say that the Police department is one of the untouchable departments, so far as higher appointments are concerned, for Indians. Either Indians are untouchable for that service, or the higher services are untouchable for the Indians. I would be glad if the hon. the Law Member would tell us whether at any time the Inspector-General of Police could be claimed to be an Indian, I would ask him to say if at any time the Deputy Inspector-General of Police could be an Indian. There are also a large number of superintendents of police, and I would be glad to know in what way he has given effect to his promises made time and again on the floor of this House that he would see that a large number of Indians were appointed as district superintendents of police. May I ask him how many Indian Superintendents of Police there are and what is the proportion? And similarly for assistant superintendents of police. Oh! it would be a tale of woe and misery if we only care to analyse the Civil List, so far as this department is concerned. He will rather do better before he places down

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the reins of his office to say : ' I have honestly promised to do something and I have honestly tried to do something ; but the department is too big or too large for me to do anything substantially '. I think, Sir, that that will be a very sane, a very reasonable and a very honest answer that may be made by the hon. the Law Member. There are also a number of unnecessary appointments which this House has been protesting against year after year. For instance, there is the duplicate service of inspectors and sub-inspectors. Last year a token cut was carried, I think on my proposition, with the object that either the inspectors or the sub-inspectors should go. I do not think any attempt has so far been made to give effect to it. No doubt the hon. the Law Member promised to appoint a special officer—I suppose that is only by way of an additional expenditure in this department—to find out whether high or low officers could be dispensed with. We, of course, know the result ; the special officer went elaborately into the question and made a report that the services of about 2,000 constables might be dispensed with. But it was found by superior officers later on that these very constables were necessary, and we are now going through the process of reappointing these very constables whose services were dispensed with then, one after another. This is one instance. So far as the public are concerned, they certainly want some of these constables, but certainly they do not want a regular retinue of reserve police or an army of sub-inspectors, inspectors, district assistants, superintendents, and so on. Therefore, from every point of view, it must be granted that we are adding a very large increase to this grant year after year, and from the facts admitted by Government, it is quite clear that the hon. the Law Member, so far as this department is concerned, is in the habit of asking for more than what is really wanted. We should put an end to it now by making a cut of Rs. 5 lakhs at least, so that he may not have recourse to that harmful practice hereafter. I think he cannot in any way spend all the Rs. 195 lakhs. Even if it is cut by Rs. 5 lakhs, it means that he gets Rupees 190 lakhs which is about Rs. 2 lakhs more than what he spent last year. In spite of extravagance, in spite of local additional police in many places throughout the Presidency last year, he has not been able to spend more than Rs. 188 lakhs. Therefore, it is only reasonable for us to think that he wants to have more patronage in his hands, wants to increase the men in the service or increase the salaries of these people. Unless we want to encourage them in their extravagance and incorrect account-keeping, I think this is a motion on which we ought to be unanimous. I suppose there will be no question of division of feelings in respect of any party in this House, as to whether the total amount should be reduced by Rs. 5 lakhs or not. The Justice Party, by the very action of their Floor Leader in giving notice of this very same motion has expressed itself in favour of the cut. So far as the Independents are concerned, I see that the Ministerialists have not given notice of any motion on this matter, but I hope that with their experience, with their recent statements proclaiming that they are acting for the welfare of the people of this Presidency and that they are always for retrenchment, they will at least in this case go with us and put an end to what apparently, clearly and admittedly is an extravagance. I would therefore appeal to the House to see that this reduction of Rs. 5 lakhs from the total grant is carried."

The Council then adjourned to meet again at 11 a.m. the next day.

R. V. KRISHNA AYYAR,
Secretary to the Legislative Council.

THE MADRAS LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

Wednesday, the 23rd March 1927.

The House met at 11 o'clock, Mr. President (the hon. Rao Bahadur C. V. S. NARASIMHA RAJU Garu) in the chair.

PRESENT:

Ramaswami Ayyar, K.C.I.E., The hon. Sir C. P.	Mahmud Schamnad Sahib Bahadur, Malkayya, Dr. B. S.
Marjoribanks, C.S.I., C.I.E., The hon. Mr. N. E.	Manikkavelu Nayakar, Mr. M. A.
Usman Sahib Bahadur, The hon. Khan Bahadur Muhammad.	Maruduvanam Pillai, Mr. C.
Moir, C.S.I., C.I.E., The hon. Mr. T. E.	Meera Rayuttar Bahadur, K. P. V. S. Muhammad.
Subbarayan, The hon. Dr. P.	Moidoo Sahib Bahadur, T. M.
Ranganatha Mudaliyar, The hon. Mr. A.	Moore, C.I.E., Mr. P. L.
Arogyaswami Mudaliyar, The hon. Diwan Bahadur R. N.	Muniswami Nayudu, Rao Bahadur B.
Abbas Ali Khan Bahadur.	Muniswami Pillai, Mr. V. I.
Abdul Hye Sahib Bahadur, K.	Muppli Nayar of Kavalappara, Mr.
Abdul Razaak Sahib Bahadur, Khan Bahadur S. K.	Muttayya Mudaliyar, Mr. S.
Abdul Hamid Khan Sahib Bahadur.	Muthulakshmi Reddi, Dr. (Mrs.).
Adinarayana Chettiyar, Mr. T.	Muthuranga Mudaliyar, Mr. C. N.
Anjaneyulu, Mr. P.	Nagan Gowda, Mr. R.
Ali Gowder, Mr. H. B.	Nanjappa Bahadur, Subadar-Major S. A.
Arpudaswami Udayar, Mr. S.	Narayana Raju, Mr. D.
Basheer Ahmad Sayeed Sahib Bahadur.	Narayanan Nambudripad, Rao Bahadur O. M.
Bazul-ul-lah Sahib Bahadur, C.I.E., C.B.E., Khan Bahadur Muhammad.	Narayanaswami Pillai, Mr. T. M.
Bhaktavatsalu Nayudu, Mr. P.	Obi Reddi, Mr. C.
Bheemayya, Mr. J.	Pandrang Rao, Mr. V.
Biswanath Das Mahasayo, Srinan.	Parthasarathi Ayyangar, Mr. C. R.
Boag, Mr. G. T.	Patro, Kt., Rao Bahadur Sir A. P.
Chidambaranatha Mudaliyar, Mr. T. K.	Raja of Panagal, K.C.I.E.
Congreve, Mr. C. B. I.	Raja of Ramnad.
Cotterell, C.I.E., Mr. C. B.	Rajan, Mr. P. T.
Davis, Mr. J. A.	Ramachandra Padayachi, Mr. K.
Ilorai Raja, Mr. S. N.	Ramachandra Reddi, Mr. B.
Ethirajulu Nayudu, Diwan Bahadur P. C.	Ramanath Goenka, Mr.
Gangadhara Siva, Mr. M. V.	Ramaswami Ayyar, Mr. U.
Gnanavaram Pillai, Mr.	Ratnasabapati Mudaliyar, Rao Bahadur C. S.
Gopala Menon, Mr. C.	Sahajenandam, Swami A. S.
Govindaraja Mudaliyar, Mr. C. S.	Saldanha, Mr. J. A.
Guruswami, Rao Sahib L. C.	Sami Venkatachalam Chetti, Mr.
Hall, C.B.E., Mr. J. F.	Sarabha Reddi, Mr. K.
Humpayya, Rai Sahib M.	Satyamurti, Mr. S.
Harisaravottanna Rao, Mr. G.	Seturatnam Ayyar, Mr. M. R.
Hearson, Mr. H. F. P.	Shetty, Mr. A. B.
John, Mr. V. Ch.	Sitarama Reddi, Rao Bahadur K.
Kaleswara Rao, Mr. A.	Siva Raj, Mr. N.
Karant, Mr. K. R.	Sivaeubahmany Ayyar, Mr. K. S.
Khadir Mohidin Sahib Bahadur, Muhammad.	Slater, C.I.E., Mr. S. H.
Koti Reddi, Mr. K.	Smith, Mr. J. Mackenzie.
Krishnan, Mr. K.	Soundarapandia Nadar, Mr. W. P. A.
Krishnan Nayar, Diwan Bahadur M.	Srinivasa Ayyangar, Mr. R.
Krishnaswami Nayakar, Mr. K. V.	Srinivasa Ayyangar, Mr. T. C.
Kumara Raja of Venkatagiri.	Srinivasan, Rao Sahib R.
Kumaraswami Reddiyar, Diwan Bahadur S.	Subrahmanya Moopnar, Mr. S.
MaoDougall, Kt., Sir Alexander.	Subrahmanya Pillai, Mr. Chavadi K.
Madhavan Nayar, Mr. K.	Sundaramurti Pillai, Rao Sahib P. V. S.
	Swami, Mr. K. V. R.
	Syed Ibrahim Sahib Bahadur.
	Tajudin Sahib Bahadur, Syed.
	Tulasiram, Mr. L. K.

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PRESENT—cont.

Uppi Sahib Bahadur, K.
 Vanavudaiya Goundar, Mr. S. V.
 Venkatapati Raju, Mr. P. C.
 Venkatarama Sastri, C.I.S., Mr. T. R.
 Venkataramana Ayyangar, Mr. C. V.
 Venkatarangam Nayudu, Mr. C.
 Venkataratnam, Mr. B.

Venkiab, Mr. S.
 Wood, Mr. C. E.
 Zamindar of Gollapalli.
 Zamindar of Kallikota.
 Zamindar of Mirzapuram.
 Zamindar of Seithur.

I

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

[*Order made by the President of the Madras Legislative Council under Standing Order No. 15.*]

1. Starred questions to be put at a meeting of the Council with their answers shall be printed and placed on the Council table an hour before the President takes his seat.

The President will call out the name of each interpellator in the order in which the names are printed, specify the serial number of his question and make a sufficient pause to give him or any other member a reasonable opportunity of rising in his place and putting a supplementary question. Supplementary questions must be put immediately after the principal questions to which they relate.

2. If a member responsible for a starred question happens to be absent when it is called, it will be open either to him or to any other member to put supplementary questions thereon after the other starred questions for the day have been answered, provided question-time is not thereby exceeded.

3. Questions, not starred, will not be called in Council, but they will be printed with their answers and placed on the table of the House along with the list of starred questions. Oral supplementary questions will not be allowed in regard to unstarred questions.]

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—"We shall take up the unfinished portion of yesterday's Questions and Answers."

[Left over from 22nd March 1927.]

STARRED QUESTIONS

Irrigation

Purchasers of lands lying by the Mettur Canal.

* 464 Q.—Diwan Bahadur P. C. ETHIRAJULU NAYUDU: Will the hon. the Law Member, the hon. the Member for Revenue and the hon. the Member for Finance be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government are aware that a very large tract of land lying on the line where the Mettur Canal runs, was purchased by the officers of the Engineering Department and Secretariat people (both retired and in service); and

(b) if so, whether the names of such purchasers and the extent of land purchased by each one of them will be laid on the table of this Council?

A.—(a) & (b) The Government have no information, but are making enquiries.

Purchasers of lands lying by the Mettur canal.

* 465 Q.—Mr. B. RAMACHANDRA REDDI: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government are aware that a very large tract of land lying on the line where the Mettur Canal runs, was purchased by the officers of the Engineering Department and Secretariat officers (both retired and in service); and

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(b) if so, whether a statement containing the names of such purchasers and the extent of land purchased by every one of them will be laid on the table of the House?

4.—The attention of the hon. Member is invited to question No. 464.

Diwan Bahadur P. C. ETHIRAJULU NAYUDU :—“ May I know when the enquiry was started ? ”

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—“ As soon as this question came up to our office, the enquiry was started.”

Diwan Bahadur P. C. ETHIRAJULU NAYUDU :—“ Will the hon. Member place the result of the enquiry on the table of this House ? ”

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—“ If there is any foundation for what Government are inclined to consider to be an unfounded aspersion on officers of Government.”

Diwan Bahadur P. C. ETHIRAJULU NAYUDU :—“ Is it a fact that the lands lying along the canal was purchased by the officers concerned in the names of their near and dear ones ? ”

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—“ As I said, Government are inclined to consider these statements to be unfounded aspersions on the honour and the honesty of the department. If such things had taken place, the severest notice will be taken by Government.”

Diwan Bahadur P. C. ETHIRAJULU NAYUDU :—“ I am only asking whether Government are going to make enquiries.”

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—“ The better course for the hon. Member is to give particular instances, names and details, so that the Government may be in a position to answer.”

Diwan Bahadur P. C. ETHIRAJULU NAYUDU :—“ That is an information which is not available particularly to non-official members.”

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—“ Then, Sir, I greatly regret that an occasion has been taken of this character to cast aspersions on a department, on a hard-working and honest department, which is likely to have big reverberations.”

Mr. S. MUTTAYYA MUDALIYAR :—“ May I ask the hon. the Law Member whether the purchase of these lands by Government officers is likely to affect the construction of the dam prejudicially or unfavourably ? ”

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—“ Not the construction of the dam, but the Government officers and the good name of the Government with which Government is concerned.”

Mr. S. MUTTAYYA MUDALIYAR :—“ May I ask, Sir, if it will affect if some officers who are not now in service have purchased ? ”

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—“ That is a hypothetical question. ”

Mr. B. RAMACHANDRA REDDI :—“ May I ask what is the nature of the enquiry ? ”

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—“ The enquiry which is necessitated by the circumstances of the case. We have asked the Chief

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Engineer to make every enquiry about the purchase of lands and the names of purchasers and to ask every officer concerned in the department whether any such thing had taken place. We hope and trust that this will be demonstrated to be an unfounded libel."

Details of the proposed machinery for the Mettur Project.

* 466 Q.—MR. B. RAMACHANDRA REDDI: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that machinery worth about 90 lakhs of rupees is contemplated to be bought for the construction of the Mettur dam; and

(b) if so, what are the details of the machinery contemplated to be purchased?

A.—(a) & (b) The estimated cost of the machinery now proposed to be bought is some Rs. 8 lakhs less than that provided for in the sanctioned estimate under the head 'Special Tools and Plant' but the question is still under the consideration of the Government.

Purchase of machinery for the Mettur Project.

* 467 Q.—MR. B. RAMACHANDRA REDDI: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether the machinery for the Mettur dam is to be purchased direct by the Local Government through its own agent or through the High Commissioner's Office;

(b) whether it is a fact that Mr. W. P. Roberts was deputed to England to select machinery and that the Government is going to purchase the machinery so selected;

(c) whether Government called for any tenders for the supply of such machinery;

(d) if not, whether it now contemplates calling for such tenders;

(e) if they have called for tenders, from what countries such tenders were called for and the names of firms tendered;

(f) whether it has been advertised only in England or Great Britain alone; or whether advertisements have been sent to leading papers in Germany, France and America;

(g) whether Government called for tenders in India by advertising in newspapers; and

(h) if so, what are the papers in which it was advertised?

A.—(a) The question is under the consideration of the Government.

(b) Mr. Roberts was deputed to England to work out a scheme of ropeways or other means for the construction of the Cauvery dam. His report is under the consideration of the Government.

(c) to (h) The attention of the hon. Member is invited to the answer given to question No. 386.

MR. B. RAMACHANDRA REDDI:—"May I ask the hon. Member whether the purchase of the concrete placing machinery was originally contemplated?"

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The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—“ This matter was answered at great length for over half an hour on a previous occasion and the answer which my friend wants was included in the answer already given.”

Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR :—“ May I know whether the specification given by any one firm has been approved by the Government or by the Chief Engineer ? ”

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—“ Government have not yet approved of the purchase of any machinery, so that we cannot say whether the Chief Engineer has made any recommendation to Government.”

Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR :—“ I want to know whether the specification of one firm has been approved. I want to know whether Government have approved of it or the Chief Engineer ? ”

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—“ At present Government have not considered the question.”

Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR :—“ I am only asking if one firm has given a plan and estimate for this machinery which has to be approved and whether tenders will be called for on that specification from various firms and from various other countries ? ”

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—“ The answer has already been given. The suggestion for action will be considered.”

Rao Bahadur C. S. RATNASABAPATI MUDALIYAR :—“ May I know the actual amount of estimate ? The estimate provided is stated to be eight lakhs less than that provided for in the estimate. What is the actual amount ? ”

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—“ It was answered yesterday. I think it is 63 lakhs and odd.”

Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—“ May I know whether tenders have been advertised in America and elsewhere ? ”

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—“ That again was answered.”

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—“ The question was put on a previous occasion.”

Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—“ I did put it, Sir, but got no answer.”

Mr. B. RAMACHANDRA REDDI :—“ With reference to answer to clause (a), may I know when the Government is likely to come to a decision ? ”

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—“ When it does come to a decision.”

Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—“ May I point out, Sir, that my question was not answered and I want an answer to-day as to whether Government have advertised for tenders in America besides advertising in England and what measures are going to be adopted ? ”

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—“ I must reiterate that I have answered it already and I have nothing further to add.”

Mr. B. RAMACHANDRA REDDI :—“ With reference to answer to clause (b), may I ask what is the period of the deputation of Mr. Roberts in England ? ”

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The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—" About five or six months."

Mr. B. RAMACHANDRA REDDI :—" What is the cost involved to Government ? "

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—" No cost, excepting his own salary and certain allowances there in England. As a matter of fact, he got two-thirds salary."

Mr. B. RAMACHANDRA REDDI :—" It is stated that he was deputed to work out a scheme of ropeways and other means for the construction of the Cauvery dam. Can it not be worked out in India and has the Chief Engineer no idea of the subject ? "

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—" Obviously not, because machinery of that kind is only constructed by a few specialist firms in America, Germany and in England and he had to go to these firms, get particulars and make alterations to suit particular places and come to a conclusion. As there are no such firms in India, the thing could not be done in India."

Mr. B. RAMACHANDRA REDDI :—" May I know whether the Government will be pleased to lay the report on the table of this House ? "

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—" That again has been answered."

Appointment of Colonel Ellis as Chief Engineer, Mettur Project.

* 468 Q.—Mr. B. RAMACHANDRA REDDI : Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that Colonel Ellis, retired Engineer, has been invited to take up the place of Chief Engineer, Mettur Project; and

(b) if so, on what terms ?

A.—(a) No.

(b) Does not arise.

Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR :—" May I know if there is any proposal to appoint Colonel Ellis after Mr. Mullings retires ? "

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—" Mr. Mullings has got about two years of service and what will happen at the end of two years, it is impossible to say now."

Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR :—" May I ask whether there is any proposal at all or suggestion that Colonel Ellis may be appointed in view of his past experience of the Mettur Project from the beginning of its investigation ? "

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—" It is true that at one time there was an idea of consulting him on certain matters."

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Public Service

Appointment of Mr. F. B. Evans as Commissioner with reference to the Mettur Project.

* 469 Q.—**Diwan Bahadur P. C. ETHIRAJULU NAYUDU**: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue, the hon. the Law Member and the hon. the Member for Finance be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that Mr. F. B. Evans, C.S.I., is to be posted as Commissioner with special reference to the Mettur Irrigation Project on his return from Delhi;

(b) if so, what is the salary for the post and what is the necessity for it;

(c) whether the Government of India have been addressed on the subject; and

(d) whether the matter has been placed before the Finance Committee of the House and whether the assent of the Finance Committee has been obtained?

A.—(a) Yes.

(b) The hon. Member is referred to G.O. No. 163, Public, dated the 24th February 1927, copy of which is placed on the table of the House.^a

(c) No.

(d) No

Appointment of Mr. F. B. Evans as Commissioner with reference to the Mettur Project.

* 470 Q.—**Mr. B. RAMACHANDRA REDDI**: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue, the hon. the Law Member and the hon. the Member for Finance be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that Mr. F. B. Evans, C.S.I., is to be posted as Financial Commissioner with special reference to the Mettur Irrigation Project on his return from Delhi;

(b) if so, what is the salary for the post and what is the necessity for it;

(c) whether the Government of India have been addressed on the subject; and

(d) whether the matter has been placed before the Finance Committee of the House and whether its assent has been obtained?

A.—The hon. Member is referred to the answer to question No. 469.

Diwan Bahadur P. C. ETHIRAJULU NAYUDU :—“With reference to answers to clauses (c) and (d), I would like to know whether it is not necessary to put these proposals before the Finance Committee and whether its assent has been taken?”

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—“There was no necessity felt, Sir.”

Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR :—“Is the appointment included in the original estimate for the project?”

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—“No.”

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Mr. B. RAMACHANDRA REDDI:—"Will it come up before the Finance Committee?"

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR:—"The matter will come up in so far as any voted portion of the salary comes up."

Mr. J. A. SALDANHA:—"In case some Members and myself like to go to the place to investigate all these questions, will Government be pleased to give us the necessary facilities?"

The hon. the PRESIDENT:—"I want to know out of which answer this supplementary question arises?"

Mr. J. A. SALDANHA:—"It is in order to satisfy ourselves."

The hon. the PRESIDENT:—"The hon. Member has to recognize that he has to conform to the rules for putting supplementary questions."

Mr. J. A. SALDANHA:—"In connexion with the last question in order to enlighten ourselves with the assistance of Mr. Evans who will be there, we are anxious to go into the facts fully, and I want to know whether Government will be pleased to give us necessary facilities."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT:—"The hon. Member may put it as an oral question, but not as a supplementary question."

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR:—"I realize the extent and nature of the thirst for information of my hon. Friend from South Kanara. If he expresses a desire to go over to places in quest of information I shall see that facilities are given to the hon. Member for the purpose."

[For further starred questions, please see pages 685 to 713.]

UNSTARRED QUESTIONS

[Put on 22nd March 1927.]

Forests

Compounding fees for forest offences.

471 Q.—Mr. A. PARASURAMA RAO: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether in fixing the compounding fees in respect of forest offences any rules have been framed for the guidance of the officers of the Forest department;

(b) whether if so, the hon. Member will be pleased to place them on the table;

(c) whether any cases were brought to the notice of Government in which the amount of compounding fee was very high, considering the value of the forest produce regarding which the offence was said to have been committed;

(d) whether, if the amount is not paid by the delinquent, the magistrate who tries him is informed of the amount of composition either in writing, or orally by the officers of the Forest department who conduct the prosecution;

(e) whether it is true that the magistrates invariably levy a fine which is over and above the amount of such composition;

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(f) whether there is a Government Order issued some time ago to the effect that the trying magistrates should not be informed of the amount of composition fixed by the department;

(g) if there is one in existence, whether such a Government Order is strictly obeyed; and

(h) if not, whether the hon. Member will issue strict injunctions to the officers concerned that no such information should be given to the trying magistrates by the officers of the Forest department?

A.—(a) The question of limiting the compounding fees in respect of grazing and non-grazing offences is under consideration of the Government.

(b) The matter will be considered when final orders are passed on the subject.

(c) No such cases have recently been brought to the notice of the Government.

(e) The Government have no reason to suppose that such is the case.

(d) & (f) to (h) Under existing orders the amount of compounding fee fixed by the District Forest Officer has to be communicated to the Magistrate in writing.

Public Health

Burial of corpses on the bund of the Chettikulam pond.

472 Q.—Mr. T. ADINARAYANA CHETTIYAR: Will the hon. the Minister for Public Health be pleased to state with reference to the answer to question No. 45 answered on 25th January 1927—

(a) whether the burial of corpses on the bund of the Chettikulam pond is still permitted to go on; and

(b) if so, whether the Government will prohibit people from drinking the water of that tank although it is the only one available to the people of the locality?

A.—(a) & (b) The Government have no information. They have called for it.

STARRED QUESTIONS

Fisheries

Charges for salt issued for curing fish in fish-curing yards.

* 473 Q.—Mr. J. A. SALDANHA: Will the hon. the Minister for Public Health be pleased to refer to the debate in the Legislative Council on 26th March 1926 on the question of the charges payable for salt issued for curing fish in fish-curing yards and to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that in the Bombay Presidency salt is issued in fish-curing yards for fish-curing purposes at about 12 annas per maund;

(b) why a charge of Rs. 1-4-0 per maund is made in this Presidency;

(c) what the average cost per maund for transport of salt to the fish-curing yards on the West Coast was in 1924-25 and 1925-26; and

(d) what was the cost of the establishment for the purpose of issuing salt and maintaining the yards, etc., in those years, and how far it affects the price of a maund of salt issued?

[28rd March 1927]

A.—(a) The Government have no information.

(b) The Government were sustaining a loss of nearly Rs. 1.39 lakhs on an average in the working of these yards in the three years previous to their transfer to Fisheries department. The charge of Rs. 1-4-0 was fixed to minimise this loss.

(c)	1924-25	...	...	...	...	...	Re. 0-9-1.5
	1925-26	...	...	...	...	...	„ 0-8-10.2
(d)	1924-25	...	...	...	...	...	Rs. 65,950
	1925-26	...	...	...	...	...	„ 67,611

The establishment charges work out approximately to annas 6 per maund of salt consumed in the yards.

Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—“ With reference to the answer to clause (a) will Government be pleased to get the required information? I can assure the Government that the rate in Bombay is as I have stated.”

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—“ The hon. Member need not assure anything. He has to put a supplementary question.”

Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—“ I want to know whether the Government will ascertain what the real fact is? ”

The hon. Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR :—“ I shall make enquiries, Sir.”

Mr. K. R. KARANT :—“ Is it a fact that in the Council of State recently the Central Government has agreed to take over these fish-curing yards? ”

The hon. Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR :—“ I am not aware of it.”

Mr. C. GOPALA MENON :—“ Was not a resolution passed in the Council of State authorizing the Central Government to take over these fish-curing yards? ”

The hon. Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR :—“ The Government are not aware of the fact.”

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—“ I think the House will not object to the hon. Minister answering questions sitting as a special case, as I understand he was suffering from fever last night.”

Mr. C. GOPALA MENON :—“ Mr. President, Sir, was there a petition from the fisher-folk in Malabar against increasing the price of salt to Rs. 1-4-0? Was any action taken on that petition? ”

The hon. Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR :—“ I am obliged to you, Sir, for the permission you have given me. With reference to the hon. Member's question I am going into the question of the issue price of salt and it seems very likely that we may be able to make some reduction.”

Mr. K. R. KARANT :—“ May I ask whether, if the Central Government is willing to take over these yards, this Government has any objection to hand them over to them? ”

The hon. Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR :—“ I think it is the other way round.”

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Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—" May I enquire whether the people ought to be made to suffer by the Fisheries department and their establishment ? "

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" I am afraid the hon. Member is again giving information."

Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—" Because the hon. Minister who preceded the present hon. Minister told us clearly that the rate formerly was 10 annas."

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" I am sorry. The hon. Member is not entitled to give information like that."

Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—" I want to know whether the people ought to suffer for the existence of the Fisheries department and fishery officers by the rate having been doubled ? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR :—" I am afraid I cannot answer that question."

Mr. C. GOPALA MENON :—" May I know what was the charge of import and export of salt last year on the West Coast, and was not the increase due to the high charges incurred by using the trawler ? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR :—" By the use of the trawler, Sir, we hope to be able to reduce the transport charges very considerably."

Mr. C. GOPALA MENON :—" May I know what was the charge incurred per month by the use of this trawler for carrying salt ? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR :—" Notice, Sir."

Medical Administration

Working of the new system of honorary medical officers.

* 474 Q.—Dr. B. S. MALLAYYA : Will the hon. the Minister for Public Health be pleased to state—

(a) how the new system of honorary medical officers is working now ; and

(b) why it has not been introduced in mufassal hospitals ?

A.—(a) A report received from the Surgeon-General on the subject is placed upon the table.

(b) The question of appointing honorary physicians and surgeons to mufassal hospitals has been deferred until the results of the working of the system in the City State hospitals have been determined.

Dr. B. S. MALLAYYA :—" May I know, Sir, from the hon. Minister for Public Health what is meant by saying that the scheme is a success but not an unqualified success ? I should like to know whether it is a polite way of saying that it is a failure ? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR :—" I believe the hon. Member refers to the report of the Surgeon-General. I should like to have notice, Sir."

[23rd March 1927]

Dr. B. S. MALLAYYA :—"The appointments are stated to be unpopular. May I know whether an attempt was made to find out why they are unpopular?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR :—"I could hardly answer that question, Sir. It is a fact that we have found it to be unpopular."

Dr. B. S. MALLAYYA :—"If it is popular in Bombay and other places in India, may I know why it should be unpopular in Madras?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR :—"I do not know anything about Bombay, Sir. We are only concerned with the state of things obtaining here."

Dr. B. S. MALLAYYA :—"It is stated further in the report that the patients are not materially benefited by the scheme. Is it due to these honorary officers maltreating the patients, or the patients deserting the wards, or the officers using them as private nursing homes? Has he got any information on that?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR :—"No, Sir."

Dr. B. S. MALLAYYA :—"In another part of the report it is said that this honorary medical officers' scheme is successful, at any rate that they are of real value in two hospitals, the Royapuram and the Tuberculosis hospitals. If they are a success there, may I know from the hon. the Minister whether these officers in charge of these hospitals are Europeans or Indians?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR :—"I think both of them are Indians."

Dr. B. S. MALLAYYA :—"So, does the hon. Minister admit that where the Superintendents are Indians, the scheme is successful, and where they are Europeans, it is a failure?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR :—"I do not admit it, Sir."

Dr. B. S. MALLAYYA :—"But the hon. Minister says that the scheme is not successful in other cases."

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—"The hon. Member is not entitled to argue with the Minister."

Dr. B. S. MALLAYYA :—"I am not arguing but inferring."

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—"Inferences are not to be stated in questions."

Dr. B. S. MALLAYYA :—"I want to know, Sir, how he compromises the statement in the report, that the patients have not been deriving much benefit in one place while in another place it is stated that the honorary officers are of real value. How does he propose to compromise these two statements?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR :—"Our experience has been that in the case of the teaching hospitals, we found that the scheme had not been satisfactory."

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Dr. B. S. MALLAYYA :—" I should like to know whether the hon. Minister is aware that a particular lectureship in the Medical College is held now by a man who did not learn that subject, but has to learn it every day in order to lecture to the students daily ? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR :—" Notice, Sir."

Dr B. S. MALLAYYA :—" I refer to the professorship of Biology. Is Biology being taught by a professor who never learnt it while a student but has to learn it every day before he can lecture to the class, and who happens to be a friend of the hon. Minister ? "

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" Is that an honorary lectureship ? "

Dr. B. S. MALLAYYA :—" I am speaking of permanent lecturers."

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" Are they paid or honorary ? "

Dr. B. S. MALLAYYA :—" They are paid, Sir."

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" Then how does the question arise ? "

Dr. B. S. MALLAYYA :—" It arises this way, Sir. The honorary man is said to be not fit to lecture. A professor in Biology, a double graduate of this University, a man who held two qualifications combined of the British Medical Association, a man who had done splendid work in English hospitals, came forward and offered himself to the Minister but the offer was declined."

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" If my hon. Friend wants to furnish information, he can do so on other occasions."

Dr. B. S. MALLAYYA :—" I want to know whether the hon. Minister is aware that the Government rejected the offer of an honorary doctor to lecture in Biology, a man who is qualified in every way to do the work, but on the other hand the Government brought in an officer of their own for the professorship, one who did not know anything about Biology."

The hon. Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR :—" I am not aware of it, Sir."

Dr. B. S. MALLAYYA :—" Is the hon. Minister aware that the Principal of the Medical College complained recently during the prize distribution ceremony that the failures in the first and second years were abnormal ? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR :—" Notice, Sir."

Dr. B. S. MALLAYYA :—" Has that anything to do with the efficiency of the staff which he is having at present (Laughter). If we have a man who has not learnt the subject and ask him to do teaching work, and then if the students fail, is that called efficiency ? "

Mr. S. SATYAMURTI :—" Referring to appendix I at page 17, may I ask what is meant by the expression 'benefit of the honorary medical officer' ? Does it mean benefit to him or to the patients ? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR :—" I think by the term 'benefit of the honorary medical officer', it is meant that the scheme benefits him because he gains experience."

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Mr. S. SATYAMURTI :—"So, it means benefit to the honorary medical officer. With regard to the second paragraph of that answer, it is stated, 'the appointments are not popular and the number of applications last year was very small, so small that no selection was possible'. May I ask the hon. the Minister as to whether the paucity in the number of applications was due to the fact that the conditions of service of these honorary medical officers were somewhat irksome and undignified because self-respecting medical practitioners are asked to serve more or less as servants under the resident medical officers?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR :—"I am not aware of that, Sir."

Mr. SAMI VENKATACHALAM CHETTI :—"Is it a fact that the paucity of applications is due to the fact that applications from some very senior medical men were rejected in the previous years?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR :—"I am not aware of it, Sir."

Mr. S. SATYAMURTI :—"May I ask the hon. the Minister whether distinguished medical practitioners in Madras are quite willing to serve as honorary physicians and surgeons in these hospitals, provided that conditions are made decent and self-respecting for them?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR :—"I am not aware of that, Sir, but if what the hon. Member states is a fact, I shall be very glad to enquire into the matter."

Mr. S. SATYAMURTI :—"With regard to the second paragraph, i.e., 'There has been no economy in administration to Government as the employment of honorary medical officers has not permitted any retrenchment in the permanent staff. It is possible that efficiency may demand extra resident medical staff'. As a layman, may I ask for some elucidation of that answer? Does it mean more paid doctors because of more honorary doctors?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR :—"No, Sir."

Mr. S. SATYAMURTI :—"Then, what does it mean, Sir? As far as I can see, it means that because you employ honorary medical officers, you must have extra resident medical staff. That is, the addition is necessitated by the employment of honorary medical officers. May I ask as a layman for some elucidation of that answer?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR :—"I believe, Sir, it means that by the employment of honorary officers, we shall have to get extra resident staff."

Mr. S. SATYAMURTI :—"May I ask him whether in the opinion of the Government these honorary medical officers perform their duties so inefficiently that they have to employ the medical staff they would otherwise employ and also additional staff to correct the mistakes of these honorary medical officers?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR :—"I do not think it is so, Sir."

Mr. S. SATYAMURTI :—"Then what is it, Sir?"

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Dr. B. S. MALLAYYA :—“ May I know whether the hon. the Minister for Public Health is aware that one of the honorary medical men was drafted into the permanent service over the heads of permanent men who are already in the service, and he was posted as a professor of Medicine in a college in the north ? ”

The hon. the **PRESIDENT** :—“ That does not arise out of this question regarding honorary medical officers.”

Dr. B. S. MALLAYYA :—“ Honorary medical officers are designated as unfit to teach, but when one of them is given a high salary and position as professor of a college, I should like to know why they make that remark, that honorary medical officers are not fit to teach students.”

The hon. the **PRESIDENT** :—“ The question does not arise.”

Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR :—“ May I know in view of the fact that it has been a success in two hospitals in Madras where there has been no teaching, whether the Government is prepared to extend the scheme to such mufassal hospitals as are not having teaching ? ”

The hon. **Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR** :—“ I will go into the whole question not only in regard to Madras but with reference to the mufassal as well.”

Co-operative Societies

Co-operative village primary societies in the Presidency.

* 475 Q.—**Mr. J. KUPPUSWAMI** : Will the hon. the Minister for Development be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that the audit report of co-operative village primary societies are delayed and whether there are cases in which such reports for the co-operative year ending 30th June 1926 have not yet been published ;

(b) in how many places land mortgage banks have been opened till now and with what result ;

(c) whether Government propose to open more land mortgage banks in the Presidency ; and

(d) what progress has been made in regard to the development of non-credit activities of co-operative village primary societies from the time the Joint Registrar has been appointed up till now ?

A.—(a) It is a fact that the audit is now delayed. The question of preventing such delay in future is under the consideration of Government.

(b) Land mortgage banks have been registered in the following places :—

- (1) Conjeeveram—Chingleput district.
- (2) Gndavallera—Kistna district.
- (3) Kallakurichi—South Arcot district.
- (4) Ambur—North Arcot district.
- (5) Kulitalai—Trichinopoly district.
- (6) Tanjore—Tanjore district.
- (7) Tinnevely—Tinnevely district.

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Out of these the first two banks have floated debentures to the extent of Rs. 34,000 and 38,000 respectively.

- (c) The Government do not propose to open any land mortgage banks themselves but will continue to devote special attention to the opening of such banks.
- (d) The Government have no information. The Joint Registrar has been occupied in investigating and organizing branches of non-credit work on a larger scale than and different in nature from that which can be undertaken by the primary village society, whose function is primarily credit. Their non-credit work is confined to the joint purchase and sale of agricultural and domestic requirements.

Mr. T. ADINARAYANA CHETTIYAR :—" In the answer to clause (a) it is stated that the question of preventing this delay in future is under the consideration of the Government. How long will it be under the consideration of the Government, Sir? Has the hon. the Minister sought the advice of non-officials in the matter? "

The hon. Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—" We are taking all the necessary steps in the matter, Sir, and non-official criticism will be most welcome."

Mr. T. ADINARAYANA CHETTIYAR :—" Has the hon. the Minister sought non-official opinion, especially of the Provincial co-operative union? "

The hon. Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—" I am not sure, Sir, if the President of the co-operative union has not already expressed his opinion on the matter."

Mr. T. ADINARAYANA CHETTIYAR :—" Is it a fact that as the auditing was delayed, the present administration reports are based upon unaudited figures and on the previous years' figures? "

The hon. Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—" Not that I am aware of, Sir."

Mr. T. ADINARAYANA CHETTIYAR :—" If it is so, as I know it is, is it not a fact that the department is misleading the public? "

The hon. Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—" It is an opinion offered by the hon. Member, Sir."

Mr. T. ADINARAYANA CHETTIYAR :—" May I know in regard to clause (b), what is the amount collected as share capital in the land mortgage banks other than the first two banks mentioned in the answer? "

The hon. Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—" I would ask for notice, Sir."

Mr. T. ADINARAYANA CHETTIYAR :—" In regard to clause (c), the Government say that they do not propose to open any land mortgage banks but will continue to devote special attention to the opening of such banks. What is the difference between not opening banks and devoting attention to opening of banks, Sir? "

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The hon. Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—"I think while in the first case they are to make themselves entirely responsible for the banks from the beginning, in the second case they simply encourage private endeavours in that direction."

Mr. T. ADINARAYANA CHETTIYAR :—"On what lines are the proposed land mortgage banks to be based? Is it on the Act?"

The hon. Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—"If a number of people join together and form into a bank, Government will render them whatever help they can?"

Mr. T. ADINARAYANA CHETTIYAR :—"Have Government come to any determination about the type of land mortgage banks which in their opinion are suitable and which they will encourage? And have they not made up their minds on the matter?"

The hon. Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—"Now, there are several societies and the type is there, and if it is found necessary to improve or alter them, the Government will consider the matter."

Mr. T. ADINARAYANA CHETTIYAR :—"Is it not a fact that the present type has been practically condemned because the Joint Registrar has evolved another type?"

The hon. Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—"In any branch of work of Government, activity may be carried on by the officers."

Mr. T. ADINARAYANA CHETTIYAR :—"Is it not a fact that a particular type has been submitted for criticism, and Government received criticism and has that type been finally recast in the light of the criticism?"

The hon. Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—"Notice, Sir."

Mr. T. ADINARAYANA CHETTIYAR :—"Sir, as regards (d) the Government say they have no information. May I know how long the present Joint Registrar has been in office?"

The hon. Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—"The hon. Member knows more than what I know. I do not know, Sir."

Mr. T. ADINARAYANA CHETTIYAR :—"Is it a fact that he has not done any work to justify the Rs. 1,200 of Government money thrown away on him?"

The hon. Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—"I cannot subscribe to that absolute statement."

Mr. T. ADINARAYANA CHETTIYAR :—"Then, what is the work he has actually done? Will the Minister tell me that at least?"

The hon. Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—"It is mentioned in clause (d) of the answer."

Mr. C. GOPALA MENON :—"Sir, with reference to question (a), it seems to me that the organization, supervision and control of these primary societies have been transferred to the district federations, and the assistant registrars were left only with auditing work. Why then was there this delay in auditing the accounts of the co-operative societies?"

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The hon. Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—" Not all the work of supervision, control, etc., is done by the federations. Some portion of it is done by the assistant registrars. Hence the delay."

Mr. C. GOPALA MENON :—" Is it not a fact that it takes months and months to register these societies? Both the honorary registrars have recommended the registration of these societies and it has taken months and months for getting them registered. Also the old societies which are not in proper working order have not been reorganized."

The hon. Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—" I would not go to the length of saying that there has been no avoidable delay. But they have also to deal with cases where the required information is not furnished in full in the first instance and therefore there is a lot of correspondence and delay."

Mr. C. GOPALA MENON :—" Has not this fact been brought to the notice of the Minister during his recent tour and has he taken any steps since his return to remedy the defects?"

The hon. Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—" The hon. Member will see that I have said that the matter is under consideration."

Mr. C. GOPALA MENON :—" With reference to answer to clause (d) does the hon. Minister consider that such a highly paid official as Joint Registrar is required for this sort of work, or is it not enough if a personal assistant to the Registrar is appointed in his place?"

The hon. Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—" In view of the fact that a particular kind of work has not received special attention, it is too soon to say that this appointment is superfluous either. Personally I think useful work is being done."

Mr. C. GOPALA MENON :—" Is it not a fact that after the appointment of the Joint Registrar his work has in no way been improved or has minimised the delay in dealing with the papers relating to the work of the non-credit societies?"

The hon. Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—" I do not think so, Sir."

Mr. T. ADINARAYANA CHETTIYAR :—" With regard to the answer to (d) the hon. Minister admitted . . ."

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" I am sorry the hon. Member is making a statement and commenting upon the answer."

Mr. T. ADINARAYANA CHETTIYAR :—" I am reading the answer."

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" The hon. Member may read it but not comment on it."

Mr. T. ADINARAYANA CHETTIYAR :—" It is said that this officer is doing non-credit work in the present arrangement. Will he tell us some details of such work turned out by this officer?"

The hon. Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—" Reports are being published."

Mr. T. ADINARAYANA CHETTIYAR :—" Sir, I carefully read all the reports but I do not find any mention of the work turned out by the officer."

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The hon. Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—“ Such of the works as find place there.”

Mr. T. ADINARAYANA CHETTIYAR :—“ Will he kindly give me the reference, Sir.”

Mr. C. GOPALA MENON :—“ May I put my question in another form? The object of the reorganization scheme is to enable the Joint Registrar to work on the non-credit side. Is it worth while to know how many non-credit societies have been organized and how many reorganized? ”

The hon. Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—“ Notice, Sir.”

Public Works

Construction of a bridge across the Rushikulya river.

* 476 Q.—Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. PATRO: Will the hon. the Minister for Development be pleased to state—

(a) whether an estimate was prepared for the construction of a bridge across the Rushikulya river at Ganjam ;

(b) whether the estimate was administratively approved by the Government ;

(c) what is the total cost of the estimate for the bridge ;

(d) whether the Government are aware that the proposal for construction of the bridge has been pending for the last thirty years ;

(e) the reasons for the delay in executing the work ;

(f) whether the work is included in the list of works for the budget year 1927-28 ;

(g) when will the work be taken up for execution ; and

(h) what is the total cost of expenditure on the construction and reconstruction of bridges on the Cauvery in Trichinopoly district since 1925 to 1928 ?

A.--(a) Yes.

(b) Not yet.

(c) Rs. 8.42 lakhs.

(d) No.

(e) The inconvenience due to the want of a bridge over the Rushikulya river was brought to the notice of Government only in February 1923 and again in April 1924 when the Minister for Local Self-Government visited the Ganjam district. The question whether a combined railway and road bridge might be constructed was then considered and it was finally decided in July 1925 that an independent road bridge should be built and plans and estimates were called for. These were received in September 1926, and the question of provision of funds in 1927-28 was considered.

(f) No.

(g) As soon as funds have been provided.

(h) Rs. 11.20 lakhs.

Sriman BISWANATH DAS Mahasaya :—“ With reference to clause (b) the answer is ‘ Not yet ’. May I know, Sir, why the estimates have not yet been sanctioned even though they were received in September 1926? ”

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The hon. Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—“ Perhaps, it was thought that there was no use in giving sanction to a scheme which was not likely to come up soon for execution.”

Education

Distance between elementary schools in the Presidency.

* 477 Q.—Mr. J. A. SALDANHA : Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Local Self-Government be pleased—

(a) to place before the House a statement showing—

(i) the several elementary schools opened by the local taluk boards of Malabar during the last three years at their own cost, or taken over by them ;

(ii) the distance at which each of them lies from a corresponding private recognized school ;

(iii) why such school was opened by the Board if the distance between it and the private school was within a mile ; and

(b) to state what is the rule as to the distance within which rival private or local board schools should not be opened ?

A.—(a) The Government have no information.

(b) The hon. Member is referred to the answer given to clauses (b)–(d) of question No. 422.

Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—“ Will the hon. Minister be pleased to call for the information ? It is very important in connexion with the Bills.”

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—“ The hon. Member cannot assign reasons.”

The hon. Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN :—“ I will call for the report.”

Elementary schools in villages.

* 478 Q.—Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. PATRO : Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) how many villages there were in 1923–24 with a population of 2,000 and above that had no school of any class, aided, unaided or under public management ;

(b) whether these villages are now provided with one elementary school, how many of these are under local board and aided agency ;

(c) how many villages there were in the Presidency with a population of one thousand and above that had no school of any class before the year 1924 and 1925, whether these villages are now provided with one school each and the number of boys newly admitted during the years 1924 and 1925 in all classes of schools aided and public ; and

(d) how many villages there were with a population of five hundred and above that were without any school before the end of 1924 and 1925, whether these villages are now provided with a school and how many children were newly brought under education aided and unaided or local board ?

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4.--(a), (b), (c) & (d) The latest figures available are for the year 1925-26. The following statement shows the number of villages unprovided with schools in 1923-24 and 1925-26 :—

	Number of schoolless centres in	
	1923-24	1925-26.
(i) Villages with a population of more than 2,000... ..	193	140
(ii) Villages with a population of 1,000 to 2,000	1,246	679
(iii) Villages with a population of 500 to 1,000	3,053	2,994
Total ...	4,492	3,763

In the current year Government have sanctioned the payment of subsidies and grants for the opening in schoolless centres of 566 board schools, 642 aided elementary schools and 300 pauchayat schools, i.e., in all 1,508 schools

The number of pupils under instruction in public elementary schools (i.e., Government, local board, municipal, aided and unaided schools) on 31st March 1924 and 31st March 1926 are given below :—

	1923-24	1925-26.
Boys	1,378,305	1,587,117
Girls	391,680	462,130

Particulars under other heads specified in the question are not available.

Mr. ABDUL HYE :—“ May I ask the hon. Minister whether the prescription of the population of 500 as the basis for opening schools in villages, is also applicable to the opening of the Muhammadan schools ? ”

The hon. Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN :—“ I believe so ”

Mr. ABDUL HYE :—“ Is there no distinction between the minimum of population prescribed for Hindu and Muhammadan schools, and why not a separate minimum be prescribed as the basis for opening Muhammadan schools, and whether the prescription of a common minimum of population will not affect the minority communities ? ”

The hon. Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN :—“ These schools are for all communities and do not belong to any one particular community ”

Sriman BISWANATH DAS Mahasaya :—“ Sir, from the statement given I see that schools are started in villages with a population of 500 when there are villages with a population of more than 1,000 and even 2,000 which are as yet schoolless. May I know the reasons for this policy ? ”

The hon. Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN :—“ I do not grant the hon. Member's premises; so the question does not arise. ”

Mr. C. S. RATNASABHAPATI MUDALIYAR :—“ May I know if the Government will be pleased to pursue a policy of opening schools in all schoolless villages the population of which is between 500 and 1,000 ? ”

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The hon. Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN :—“ I have not made up my mind. My opinion is one-teacher schools are not successful in expanding elementary education. My policy is still under consideration and the hon. Member will come to know of it by and by.”

Mr. C. S. RATNASABHAPATI MUDALIYAR :—“ May I know by what date the policy will be announced ? ”

Mr. S. SATYAMURTI :—“ In view of the fact that the increased number of schools as shown in paragraph (i), and the increased number of pupils as shown in the penultimate paragraph do not seem to bear the proper relation, may I ask if the hon. Minister is satisfied that in the newly provided schools the number of boys and girls bear the proper proportion to the increased number of schools ? ”

The hon. Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN :—“ I shall have to enquire into the matter before I give a definite answer.”

Schools under the management of village panchayats.

* 479 Q.—Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. PATRO : Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether there were any schools under the management of panchayats before 1923 ; if so, what is the number ; and

(b) whether there are any schools which are now, since 1924, under the management of village panchayats, and if so, how many and what is the total number of boys newly brought under education ?

A.—(a) The Government have no information

(b) The Government have no information as to the total number of schools started under the management of panchayats since 1924. In the current year 300 panchayat schools have been opened with the help of a special grant made from Provincial funds for the purpose. The number of pupils reading in these schools is reported to be 11,111.

Aided elementary schools.

* 480 Q.—Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. PATRO : Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) the number of elementary schools in each district which are *now aided* (1) through the District Educational Councils, (2) through local bodies, (3) through panchayats as compared with the figures of 1921 ; and

(b) how many new elementary schools are to be opened or aided during 1927–28 through (1) local bodies, (2) panchayats, (3) District Educational Councils and the probable increase of boys and girls that will be admitted into them ?

A.—(a) The question is not clear. Schools under private management are aided by District Educational Councils. Subsidies are granted to local bodies towards the maintenance of schools under their management and grants to panchayat schools are paid through the Registrar-General of Panchayats. It is presumed that the hon. Member desires to be furnished with particulars as to the number of elementary schools (aided,

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board and panchayats). The panchayat schools started prior to the current year were treated as aided schools and their number is not shown separately in the Public Instruction Report. A statement comparing the number of schools in 1921-22 with those in 1925-26 (the latest year for which statistics are available), is laid on the table. *

- (b) Provision has been made in the budget estimate for 1927-28 for the opening of 409 boys' schools and 500 girls' schools under local bodies, 500 boys' schools under panchayats and 145 boys' schools under private management. According to the statistics for 1925-26, the average number of pupils per teacher in the elementary schools for boys and girls was 24 and 23 respectively. On this basis, the probable increase in the number of pupils as a result of the opening of the new schools will be 25,300 boys and 11,500 girls.

Proposals for the amendment of Grant-in-aid Code.

* 481 Q.—Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. PATRO : Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether a draft Bill (or Bills) on Elementary Education was prepared in 1925-26 and allowed to lie over for considerations of financial provision and acceptance by the Department of Local Self-Government and whether the draft was prepared in pursuance of the recommendations of a conference held for the purpose ;

(b) whether the Director of Public Instruction and the Secondary Education Boards were called upon in 1925 to submit proposals for the amendment of the Grant-in-aid Code ;

(c) whether the Government will be pleased to place the consolidated report of the Director of Public Instruction on the table of the House relating to the revision of the Grant-in-aid Code ;

(d) whether the Committee appointed to review the condition of secondary education in the Presidency with Mr R. G. Grieve as Chairman, submitted its report to Government ;

(e) whether the Government will be pleased to place the same on the table of the House with its orders thereon ; and

(f) what modifications were suggested in the Grant-in-aid Code to give effect to its recommendations or what other financial provisions were recommended by the Committee ?

A.—(a) A Bill to amend the Madras Elementary Education Act, 1920, in accordance with the recommendations of the Elementary Education Conference held at Madras on the 24th and 26th July 1924 was prepared. For reasons which are not on record, the late Minister for Education decided to drop the Bill. A second Bill was prepared in 1925. The Local Self-Government Department and the Advisory Committee on Education did not approve of one of the important clauses in the Bill. In view of the objection raised, the late Minister decided that the question of amending the Elementary Education Act might lie over.

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(b) & (c) In 1923 the Director of Public Instruction was requested to obtain the suggestions of District Secondary Education Boards in regard to the revision of the Grant-in-Aid Code. Subsequently in 1925, Mr. Statham was placed on special duty to make a survey of secondary education in the Presidency and also to make proposals for the simplification of the system of subsidies to local bodies and grants to private agencies for secondary education. The Director of Public Instruction has not yet submitted his views on the recommendations contained in Mr Statham's report.

(d), (e) & (f) The report of the Committee referred to has not yet been received. The question of placing it on the table will be considered after it is received and dealt with by the Government.

Mr. S. SATYAMURTI :—"Sir, with regard to the answer to clause (a), may I ask the hon. the Education Minister to further elucidate the matter? It is stated in the question, you will notice, that 'the draft Bill was allowed to lie over for considerations of financial provision and acceptance by the Department of Local Self-Government'. You will notice, Sir, it is stated in the answer, 'for reasons which are not on record, the late Minister for Education decided to drop the Bill'. May I know, Sir, whether the reasons given by Sir A. P. Patro were not put by him on record as Education Minister and therefore the Minister is compelled to give that answer?"

The hon. Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN. —"As far as my investigations go the answer is just as is given on the printed notice paper. The reasons are not on record."

Mr. S. SATYAMURTI —"May I ask whether the Local Self-Government Department and the Advisory Committee on Education did not approve of one of the important clauses in the Bill and may I ask what that clause is?"

The hon. Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN :—"I do not remember exactly what that clause is at present. I believe it is with reference to the starting of new taluk educational councils."

Mr. S. SATYAMURTI :—"Sir, with regard to the last sentence in answer to that clause, may I ask in view of the objection now specified by the hon. Minister, namely, the contemplated formation of taluk councils, what were the objections and what was the period for which Sir Patro, the then Minister, decided that this question should lie over?"

The hon. Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN —"I do not think there was any definite period during which this question should lie over, but I believe the reason was the objection raised by the Local Self Government Department and the Advisory Committee on Education."

Mr. S. SATYAMURTI —"May I ask if the hon. Minister has not taken on hand the amendment of the Elementary Education Act?"

The hon. Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN :—"I have."

Mr. S. SATYAMURTI :—"With reference to (b) and (c), may I ask if Mr Statham did actually report as a result of his survey of secondary education in the Province?"

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The hon. Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN :—" I believe there was a report by Mr. Statham."

Mr. S. SATYAMURTI :—" Was that report to the Director or to the Government? "

The hon. Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN :—" That report was to the Government."

Mr. S. SATYAMURTI :—" May I know when that report was received? "

The hon. Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN :—" I am not sure. I am only speaking from memory. I believe it was received some time before the budget last year."

Mr. S. SATYAMURTI :—" May I know why the report sent to the Government was sent to the Director for his views? "

The hon. Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN :—" I am sure the hon. Member knows that the Director of Public Instruction is the technical adviser to the Government on matters educational and therefore the Government naturally sent it to the Director."

Mr. S. SATYAMURTI :—" Look at the answer. The answer begins by saying the Director of Public Instruction was requested to obtain the suggestions of District Secondary Education Boards. Then Mr. Statham was placed on special duty, I presume, by Government. I am asking whether after having asked the Director first for his suggestion, then after having appointed Mr. Statham, what is the point in sending that report to the Director when Government itself is dealing with it? "

The hon. Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN :—" Government propose to deal with the question after they have the Director's opinion on the report of Mr. Statham."

Mr. S. SATYAMURTI :—" When was it sent to the Director? "

The hon. Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN :—" I am not sure. Speaking from memory I think it was some time last April."

Mr. S. SATYAMURTI :—" May I take it that the Minister has not yet received it, and if so, has the Minister taken any steps to expedite the reply? "

The hon. Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN :—" We have written to the Director of Public Instruction to expedite his remarks on Mr. Statham's report."

Mr. S. SATYAMURTI :—" With regard to the answers to (d), (e) and (f), will the hon. the Minister be pleased to state if the committee ever met and if so, if it considered any matter and whether the committee have made any report? "

The hon. Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN :—" The committee have not yet made the report. But the committee did meet several times."

Mr. S. SATYAMURTI :—" May I ask the hon. the Minister when Government expect to receive the report? "

The hon. Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN :—" We have asked the Director to expedite the report of the committee."

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Amendment of the Madras University Act of 1923.

* 482 Q.—Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. PATRO. Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government have received the proposals from the Syndicate of the Madras University regarding the amendment of the Madras University Act of 1923; and

(b) whether the Government will be pleased to place the report of the Syndicate on the table of the House?

A.—(a) No.

(b) The question of placing the report on the Council Table will be considered after its receipt.

Local Boards*Lease of the steamer 'Nell' to one Mr. Atmuri Subba Rao.*

* 483 Q.—Mr. D. NARAYANA RAJU: Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Local Self-Government and the hon. the Minister for Development be pleased to state—

(a) the date on which the present contract between the President, District Board, Kistna, and Mr. Atmuri Subba Rao and three others for plying the steamer 'Nell' between Narasapur and Razole on the river Godavari will expire;

(b) whether the District Board, Kistna, resolved to renew the said contract with Mr. Atmuri Subba Rao for a further period of eight years commencing from 1st April 1928;

(c) whether the Government have accorded their sanction for the fresh contract as required by the rules;

(d) what is the necessity for the said renewal long before the expiry of the existing contract;

(e) whether it is a fact that Mr. A. Subba Rao himself pays to Geluri Swami's wife for her 6/16 share of the present contract a sum of Rs. 1,120 per annum as her share of the profits under a registered document dated 31st December 1922;

(f) whether the Government are aware of the fact that several offers were made to pay large amounts annually to the District Board for the right of plying the steamer in question;

(g) whether the Government are aware of the fact that the District Board is put to much loss by the renewal of the contract with Mr. A. Subba Rao without stipulating the payment of any money to the District Board, especially in view of the fact that the plying of the steamer will fetch increased profits with the opening in 1928 of the new Railway line now under construction; and

(h) whether the Government will consider the advisability of cancelling the said contract?

A.—(a) to (d), (f) & (g) A copy of the letter No 560, dated 4th May 1926, received from the President, District Board, Kistna, on the subject is laid on the table. *

(e) The Government have no authentic knowledge of the matter.

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(h) Under instruction 228 of the Madras Local Boards Manual the President, District Board, is himself competent to confirm the lease of a ferry.

Mr. D. NARAYANA RAJU :—“ May I know if the Government are aware that the repairs referred to in the letter of the President, District Board, are stipulated for in the lease deed itself? The lessee is bound to do these repairs, otherwise the district board can do these repairs and meet the cost from the security.”

The hon. Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN :—“ Government are not aware of that condition in the lease.”

Mr. D. NARAYANA RAJU :—“ The President, District Board, puts forward another reason, viz., the efficient management of the ferry service. May I know if the Government are aware that the number of the crew of the steamer and their qualifications are also matters stipulated in the lease? The efficiency is bound to be the same whoever happens to be the lessee.”

The hon. Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN :—“ We are not aware of it.”

Mr. D. NARAYANA RAJU :—“ If it be the case, that whoever happens to be the lessee the efficiency of management and proper repairs to the steamer are bound to be the same, may I know whether the Government will be pleased to consider that renewing the lease two years before its expiry amounts to a mismanagement of the funds of the Board, and see that it is rectified? ”

The hon. Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN :—“ That is asking for an opinion.”

Mr. D. NARAYANA RAJU :—“ In answer to clause (h), the President, District Board, is said to be competent to confirm the lease. Under section 37 (2) of the Local Boards Act, the Government have the right to ask the President, District Board, for an explanation for renewing the contract without stipulating the payment of any money to the district board. Will the Government exercise their power under that section? ”

The hon. Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN :—“ I will consider that matter.”

Municipal Councils

Nomination of Mr. Venkataramayya Nayudu to Ellore Municipal Council.

* 484 Q.—Mr. M. NARAYANA RAO: Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) the reasons which induced Government to nominate Rao Sahib Badeti Venkataramayya Nayudu to the Municipal Council, Ellore;

(b) whether the Government are aware that Mr. Venkataramayya Nayudu was an elected member of the Municipal Council for nearly ten years and its Chairman for over six years;

(c) whether the Government are aware that Mr. Nayudu stood for election for the tenth ward of the Ellore municipality from which he was returned by election to the Council during the previous two terms;

(d) whether Mr. Nayudu's name had been recommended for nomination by the District Collector or other persons by whom such proposals are sent to Government in the usual course;

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(e) whether Mr. Nayudu acted illegally in receiving nomination forms of candidates for the tenth ward, for which he himself was a candidate for election and whether his action was set aside by the Government in G.O. Mis No. 3817, L.S.G., dated 2nd September 1926;

(f) whether Mr. Nayudu sought renomination soon after the issue of the said Government Order;

(g) whether the main reason for nominating Mr. Nayudu to the Council was that he belongs to the Justice party;

(h) whether Government will lay on the table the communication received from the Chairman, Municipal Council, Ellore, No. A/G of 1926, dated 28th August 1926, referred to in G.O. Mis. No. 3817, L.S.G., dated 2nd September 1926;

(i) whether Mr. Nayudu was nominated to the Council under section 7 (3) of the Madras District Municipalities Act of 1920;

(j) what 'minority' community was Mr. Venkataramayya Nayudu nominated to represent; and

(k) how many members of that community—elected and nominated—were councillors of the Ellore municipality on the date of Mr. Nayudu's nomination?

A.—(a) M.R.Ry. Rao Sahib B. Venkataramayya Nayudu, Chairman, Municipal Council, Ellore, stood as a candidate for election as Councillor in the tenth ward of the municipality. The Vice-Chairman, who should have received nominations for that ward under rule 32 of the election rules, was reported to have absented himself, presumably with the object of preventing the Chairman from being nominated, and so depriving him of the chance of re-election to the Council and further of the opportunity of standing for re-election as Chairman in the forthcoming vacancy. To prevent the success of tactics of such doubtful description, the Government considered it desirable to nominate him to the Council.

(b) He was an elected councillor for about eight years and a half and was Chairman for about five years and a half.

(c) He was an elected councillor for two previous terms, but there is no information as to the ward in which he was elected.

(d) No.

(e) Yes.

(f) No.

(g) No. The object was as explained under (a).

(h) No.

(i) Yes.

(j) He was not nominated to represent any minority community.

Mr. D. NARAYANA RAJU :—"In answer to clause (a), it is said that the Vice-Chairman who should have received nominations for that ward absented himself with the object of preventing the Chairman from being nominated. May I know if the Vice Chairman was asked to explain why he absented himself at the time and did not receive nominations?"

The hon. Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN :—"I think he was asked."

Mr. D. NARAYANA RAJU :—"Will the hon. the Minister make sure that he was asked an explanation?"

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The hon. Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN :—“ I am afraid, Sir, it is not so. We had only the remarks of the Chairman.”

Mr. D. NARAYANA RAJU :—“ Are the Government aware of the fact that the Vice-Chairman was in the office at 11 o'clock on that very day of nominations, but he was not intimated anything about the nominations. At about 4 o'clock when he was not there an attempt was made to find him out and all these remarks were passed? ”

The hon. Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN :—“ I believe the Vice-Chairman was sent for by the Chairman to receive nominations, but he was not present.”

Mr. D. NARAYANA RAJU :—“ Now, it is stated that the Vice-Chairman attempted to prevent the election of the Chairman. On the particular day fixed for receiving nominations by Mr. Venkataramayya Nayudu, the Chairman, the Vice-Chairman might not have received the nominations for one reason or other. Then another date might well have been fixed for the purpose. How can it be said that the Vice-Chairman prevented Mr. Venkataramayya Nayudu from standing for election? ”

The hon. Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN :—“ The Vice-Chairman could have prevented the election of the Chairman if he had received only the nominations of some other candidates ”

Mr. D. NARAYANA RAJU :—“ The Vice-Chairman did not do anything of the kind. He was not present in the office. May I know the reasons why it is said that he tried to prevent the election of Mr. Venkataramayya Nayudu? ”

The hon. Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN :—“ That was the conclusion come to by the facts presented.”

Mr. D. NARAYANA RAJU :—“ In answer to (h), the Government say that they will not place on the table the letter of Mr. Venkataramayya Nayudu. May I know why the Government refuse to lay it on the table? ”

The RAJA OF RAMNAD :—“ Was there no other nomination received on that day, or was any other day fixed for receiving nomination papers? ”

The hon. Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN :—“ Notice.”

Rao Bahadur C. S. RATNASABAPATI MUDALIYAR :—“ May I know, Sir, on what date Mr. Venkataramayya was nominated to the Council? ”

The hon. Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN :—“ I believe he was nominated just before the election of the chairmanship of the municipal council.”

Rao Bahadur C. S. RATNASABAPATI MUDALIYAR :—“ Is it by the present Ministry? ”

The hon. Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN :—“ No, Sir.”

Mr. S. SATYAMURTI :—“ May I ask by whom the report referred to in paragraph (a) was made, that the Vice-Chairman absented himself on the day of receiving nominations, etc.? Was it by Mr. Venkataramayya Nayudu or from somebody else? ”

The hon. Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN :—“ The report was by the Chairman, who was then Mr. Venkataramayya Nayudu.”

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Mr. S. SATYAMURTI :—" Was it the only report on which the Government acted in nominating Mr. Venkataramayya Nayudu as a councillor? "

The hon. Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN :—" As far as I am aware, no other letter."

Mr. S. SATYAMURTI :—" May I ask the hon. the Minister for Education whether the Chairman was asked to adopt the legal remedies available under the Act or in a court of law, before they nominated him to the municipal council? "

The hon. Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN :—" I do not think he was told all that."

Military

Government Order granting concessions to ex-service men.

* 485 Q.—Mr. ABDUL HAMID KHAN : Will the hon. the Member for Finance be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government will be pleased to place on the table the original Government Order that gave concessions to ex-service men ;

(b) whether the original Government Order was published in the *Fort St. George Gazette*, or whether it was made available for sale, or whether it was published in the newspapers, or whether it was circulated only departmentally ;

(c) whether a subsequent Government Order debarred ex-service men from getting such concessions, and if so, why ;

(d) whether the Government will be pleased to place all papers and orders on the subject of concessions to ex-service men on the table ;

(e) whether the non-combatants were awarded the very same Service medals (two in number) as were awarded to combatants, and if so, why the Civil side of the Government machinery should underestimate the services of non-combatants ; and

(f) whether the Government are aware that many non-combatants were not able to apply for concessions within the time-limit of the first Government Order on the subject, and whether the Government propose to remove the bar which disqualifies those non-combatants who were recruited before the Armistice, and if not, why not?

A —(a) The G.O. (No. 870, Revenue, dated 14th April 1921) has already been placed on the table of the House in reply to question No. 813 answered on 26th February 1923.

(b) The Government Order was not published in the Gazette or made available for sale or published in the newspapers ; but it was communicated to all Collectors and the General Officer Commanding, Southern Command, was also supplied with a copy of it.

(c) The subsequent Government Order, viz., G.O. No. 1576, Revenue, dated 10th October 1924, did not debar 'ex-service men' from getting the concession relating to the grant of the land but only restricted the concession to those officers and men of the Indian Army who were recruited before the Armistice to the combatant ranks of the army and served in the Great War and who had not been given any grant of land. The restriction was made as the Government considered that there was no need for further assistance to non-combatants.

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- (d) All the important orders on the subject of the assignment of land to ex-army men except G.O. No. 1576, Revenue, dated 10th October 1924, were placed on the table of the House in reply to question No. 813 answered on 26th February 1923. A copy of G.O. No. 1576, Revenue, dated 10th October 1924, is now placed on the table of the House.^a
- (e) If the hon. Member refers to the British War and Victory medals, the Government believe that non-combatants were also eligible for these medals.
- (f) The Government have no information and do not propose to modify the existing orders.

Mr. ABDUL HAMID KHAN :—" In answer to clause (a), it is stated that G.O. No. 870 has already been placed on the table of the House. Has not the Government allowed under that order grant of lands to non-combatants ? "

The hon. Mr. T. E. MOIR :—" The Government have not made any pledge. They proposed to extend the concession as far as possible."

Mr. ABDUL HAMID KHAN :—" Then, may I know why in the subsequent order they have restricted the concession only to combatant ex-service men ? "

The hon. Mr. T. E. MOIR :—" Because, it was found impossible to extend the concession to every one. Therefore, Government decided to restrict it to those who in their opinion had the greatest claim."

Forests

Concession to ryots in South Kanara regarding free removal of green and dry leaves from reserved forests.

* 486 Q.—Mr. J. A. SALDANHA : Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to refer to the answer given to my question No. 2417 on 31st August 1926 as to concession to ryots in South Kanara in connexion with the free removal of green and dry leaves from reserved forests and to state—

(a) whether the concession mentioned is allowed only to cultivators of the neighbouring lands within the village or villages in which the reserve forest is situated and whether it is or may be extended to cultivators of neighbouring lands in other villages which have no other reserve forest close by and if not, why this concession is not extended to them at least in regard to excess dry leaves ;

(b) in what villages in South Kanara panchayats are formed in regard to (1) forests mainly of timber trees, (2) forests mainly of fuel with few or no timber trees ;

(c) what are the terms and conditions which have recently been accepted by the several panchayats ;

(d) whether the concession granted to ryots in South Kanara to remove dry and green leaves free from reserved forests is subject to any restrictions in villages in which forest panchayats are formed ;

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(e) whether any memorial has been received from the Hosabettu and other villages near it for applying to them the forest panchayat rules obtaining in the rest of the Presidency and for redress of certain grievances ;

(f) if so, what orders have been passed on them by Government or the Chief Conservator of Forests ; and

(g) whether the Government will be pleased to place the memorial and the orders thereon before the House ?

A.—(a) The hon. Member is referred to the answer given to his question No. 2417 on 31st August 1926.

(b) There are no forest panchayats under the control of the Forest Panchayat Officer in South Kanara. A statement showing the reserves managed by panchayats under the Forest Village System in South Kanara, the names of the villages and the nature of the forests is appended.^a

(c) A copy of the agreement containing the terms under which these panchayats work is appended.^a

(d) No restriction is imposed on the free removal of dry and green leaf for manure and the concession applies to all the forests in the district

(e) Yes

(f) In response to the requests of the memorialists the Chief Conservator of Forests has made arrangements for the removal of poles for betel leaf plantations and has withdrawn the restriction regarding removal of lantana. The other requests of the memorialists could not be complied with.

(g) The Government do not consider it necessary to place the papers referred to on the Council table.

Famine

Action taken on the resolution regarding famine and remission of kists.

* 487 Q.—Mr. C. N. MUTHURANGA MUDALIYAR: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) what action the Government have taken on the resolution passed at the last meeting of the Council about the famine and the remission of kists ;

(b) the total land revenue for the Madras Presidency ;

(c) the amount of remission granted or proposed to be granted ;

(d) the total land revenue in the Chingleput district ;

(e) the amount of remission granted or proposed to be granted in the Chingleput district ; and

(f) whether the Government have issued instructions to the Revenue officials to suspend collections of kists till the remission petitions are disposed of ?

A.—(a) The attention of the hon. Member is invited to the answer to clause (a) of question No. 331.

(b) Rupees 733 lakhs, according to the latest estimate of receipts for the current year

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- (c) Remissions are granted under the Standing Orders by the district officers. The total figures will not be known till the accounts of the year are closed.
- (d) It has been estimated at Rs 23,17,000 for the current fasli.
- (e) Please see answer to clause (c).
- (f) The Government have ordered that all claims to remission should be investigated and settled promptly and that care should be taken not to collect amounts that are likely to be remitted.

Land Revenue

Alleged petition from Mr. S. K. Mariasusay.

* 488 Q.—Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that one Mr. S. K. Mariasusay, an Assistant Tahsildar in the Sivaganga estate, brought a charge against the Tahsildar, and if so whether there was any enquiry into that charge, by whom, and with what result;

(b) whether the said Mariasusay's services were suddenly dispensed with on 24 hours' notice without any enquiry or any charge being framed against him;

(c) whether the said Mariasusay filed a petition to the Estate Collector for investigation into the matter, and if so what action was taken on the same;

(d) whether the Board of Revenue has also dismissed his appeal without giving him any chance of meeting the charges against him; and

(e) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to this matter and if so, whether the Government have any intention of causing an enquiry being made into the whole matter?

A.—(a) Yes. The Estate Collector conducted an enquiry in the presence of the Tahsildar and the Assistant Tahsildar of Tiruvegampet and after a thorough and careful enquiry found that the accusations brought by the Assistant Tahsildar against the Tahsildar had not been proved.

(b) The Estate Collector gave the Assistant Tahsildar an opportunity to resign his appointment so that his future career might not be spoiled to such an extent as it would be if he were dismissed. As he did not avail himself of the opportunity the Estate Collector dispensed with his services.

(c) The Government have not the information.

(d) An appeal to the Board of Revenue was dismissed.

(e) A memorial from the Assistant Tahsildar was received by the Government. The Government considered the case and saw no reason to interfere. That was in 1924. The Government do not now propose to reopen the case.

Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR:—"May I know whether any specific charges were framed by the Estate Collector against Mr. Mariasusay?"

The hon. Mr. N. E. MARJORIBANKS:—"If the reference is to his dismissal, I believe not."

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Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR :—“ Is it not necessary, when an enquiry is made against a man and he is dismissed, that a charge is to be framed against him under the rules ? ”

The hon. Mr. N. E. MARJORIBANKS :—“ There are now certain statutory rules which require specific charges to be framed. Previously, the rules required that it should be made clear to an accused official what he was charged with.”

Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR :—“ Have the Government considered that aspect of the question that no formal charges were framed in this case, though there was no specific rule at that time ? ”

The hon. Mr. N. E. MARJORIBANKS :—“ They did consider that matter. They were satisfied that he was made fully aware of the fault with which he was charged.”

Public Service

Appointment of a Special Educational Officer.

* 489 Q.—**Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. PATRO :** Will the hon. the Member for Revenue and the hon. the Minister for Education and Local Self-Government be pleased to state whether the Government have appointed a special officer attached to the Education Secretariat ; if so, when, who is the officer, on what salary and allowance and for what period and purpose ?

A.—G.O. No. 107, Public, dated the 3rd February 1927, on the subject is laid on the table^a. Mr. Statham joined the appointment on the afternoon of the 21st February 1927.

Secretariat

Stock files in departments of the Secretariat.

* 490 Q.—**Mr. J. KUPPUSWAMI :** Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) what are the subjects of importance for which stock files are maintained in each department of the Secretariat ;

(b) whether stock files relating to each important subject dealt with in different departments of the Secretariat are maintained for ready reference in each department ; and

(c) whether the Government have any objection to have a duplicate copy of the same in the Legislative Council Library for reference of the Members of Council ?

A.—(a) & (b) A list of subjects for which stock files are maintained in the several departments of the Secretariat is laid on the table.^b

(c) Yes, as the stock files may contain Secretariat notes and other papers of a confidential nature. A copy of every paper placed on the table of this House or on the Editors' Table will be sent to the Legislative Council Librarian so that he may form

^a Printed as Appendix VII on page 776 infra.

^b Printed as Appendix VIII on pages 776-781 infra.

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stock files for use by Members of the Council; other non-confidential papers which may be useful for inclusion in the Librarian's stock files will also be sent to him.

Irrigation

Improvements to the head sluice at Vijjeswaram.

* 491 Q.—MR. D. NARAYANA RAJU : Will the hon. the Law Member and the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) the extent of land irrigated in each of the Godavari Western, Eastern and Central deltas for the first and second crops during the last five years ;

(b) the extent of land so far included in the ayacut of Godavari Western delta on payment of inclusion fee ;

(c) the amount of inclusion fees collected up to now in the said delta ;

(d) whether it is a fact that the head sluice at Vijjeswaram is insufficient to allow adequate supply of water to the wet ayacut in the Godavari Western delta ;

(e) whether there are any proposals and estimates for improvements to the head sluice at Vijjeswaram ; and

(f) if so, whether Government have sanctioned those proposals and estimates ?

A.—(a)

	1921-1922.		1922-1923.	
	First crop.	Second crop.	First crop.	Second crop.
Godavari Western delta.	ACS. 399·709	ACS. 158·407	ACS. 412·913	ACS. 131·335
Godavari Eastern.	215·509	26·366	216·964	19·381
Godavari Central.	140·140	36·988	142·231	36·224

	1923-1924.		1924-1925.		1925-1926.	
	First crop.	Second crop.	First crop.	Second crop.	First crop.	Second crop.
Godavari Western delta.	ACS. 408·554	ACS. 144·851	ACS. 411·296	ACS. 138·409	ACS. 412·197	ACS. 139·334
Godavari Eastern.	218·183	29·180	217·996	30·009	216·726	31·921
Godavari Central.	143·458	49·122	142·630	45·295	143·983	42·597

b) & (c) The particulars specified have been called for and will be laid on the table on receipt.

d), (e) & (f) Estimates for improvements to the Vijjeswaram head sluice have been prepared and are under the consideration of the Chief Engineer.

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Mr. D. NARAYANA RAJU :—“With reference to the answer to clauses (d), (e) and (f), may I know how long these proposals have been under the consideration of the Chief Engineer?”

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—“They have been for a year. They were once considered and sent back to the Chief Engineer for further scrutiny.”

Mr. D. NARAYANA RAJU :—“May I have some idea of the nature of the proposals under consideration?”

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—“As soon as we have dealt with the matter, it will be made public.”

The Mettur dam.

* 492 Q.—Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR : Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether in view of the change of the site of the Mettur dam the height of the dam will be increased and if so, how much;

(b) whether a survey has been made as to what additional sites will be submerged in view of the change of the site of the dam;

(c) whether it has been ascertained that the additional waterspread due to the new dam may extend into the Mysore territory and if so, whether any negotiations have been carried on with that Government in connection with this matter; and

(d) whether it is a fact that there is a proposal to run some of the machinery at the Mettur dam with electricity produced at the Mekathati falls and whether any negotiations are being carried on with the Mysore Government for the purpose?

A.—(a), (b) & (c) Effective capacity first proposed was 80,000 millions cubic feet, waterspread area 54·7 square miles.

The Mysore agreement permitted 93,500 millions cubic feet of storage involving an increase of height of about $9\frac{1}{2}$ feet and an increase of waterspread of about 6 square miles.

The exact effect of the change of site dam is not yet known as the new reservoir level must first be surveyed and marked on the ground, but it is probable that there may be a further raising of the dam by $1\frac{1}{2}$ feet in height, and that the submerged area will be about 60·7 square miles. A survey party is at work demarcating the revised reservoir level and when this work is complete, exact figures will become available. It is not possible for this small alteration in height to affect Mysore.

(d) Mysore has enquired whether Madras would like to buy power from Mekathati for use at the Mettur head works. It is believed that Mysore has not yet started building the proposed dam and reservoir at Mekathati and consequently no power from that source is likely to be available for two or three years, whereas Mettur requires some power this year and full development before the end of 1928. The Public Works Department Engineers have therefore decided that Mettur must have its own power station.

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Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR :—" As regards clauses (a), (b) and (c), do the Government now know that a number of villages will have to be submerged in this additional six square miles area ? "

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—" My hon. Friend said so, and he has also repeated it. I am willing to take it."

Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR :—" I am only asking what will be the cost of acquisition of this additional six square miles ? "

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—" That is being done, Sir."

Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR :—" May I know, as regards this touching of Mysore territory at Mekathati, whether even according to the old Mettur scheme the Mysore State was not touched ? "

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—" Notice."

Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR :—" As regards the answer in clause (d), may I know whether it was not intended by this Government to set up an electrical station in the Mysore State at Mekathati ? "

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—" No, Sir. What really happened is this : Mekathati is on the borders of Mysore and Madras. At one time the Mysore Government made a proposal to the Madras Government in regard to the installation of a power station at Mekathati. Finally, however, the terms were not suitably arranged between the contracting parties, and what the Madras Government did was to tell the Government of Mysore that if they generated power they may give us a portion of that power at favourable rates. They have agreed to do so, and they are bound to do so if they generated power at Mekathati. But it is taking a long time. Apparently their financial commitments and other programmes are so numerous that they are not able to start the work immediately."

Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR :—" Is it not one of the reasons why Mr. Hawkins said that this Government can set up an electrical station at Mekathati ? "

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—" That matter was considered and a conference was held at which the Diwan of Mysore, the Chief Engineer to this Government and myself were present, and the conclusion come to was to allow Mysore to put up a power station."

Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR :—" Have the Government now considered whether the cost of having such a generating station at Mekathati will be cheaper or heavier than generating power by separate engines at the site of the Mettur dam ? "

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—" They have considered the matter, and it was finally decided in the manner I have indicated."

UNSTARRED QUESTIONS.

Excise

Arrack and toddy shops in Gudiyattam.

493 Q.—MR. T. ADINARAYANA CHETTIYAR : Will the hon. the Minister for Public Health be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that arrack and toddy shops are located in Gudiyattam in North Arcot district in the very heart of the town ;

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(b) whether it is a fact that the people of Gudiyattam have petitioned to the Government praying for the removal of the shops to some place outside municipal limits; and

(c) whether Government propose to have the shops removed to a less objectionable locality?

A.—(a) The Government have not the information.

(b) No such petition has been received by the Government.

(c) A copy of the question will be forwarded to the Collector of North Arcot in order that the Excoise Advisory Committee for Gudiyattam may consider the matters with which it deals.

Public Health

Grant for digging wells to Adi-Dravidas.

494 Q.—MR. T. ADINARAYANA CHETTIYAR : Will the hon. the Minister for Public Health be pleased to state —

(a) whether the Government have received a resolution from the District Board, Salem, requesting a free grant of Rs. 50,000 for wells for Adi-Dravidas in Namakkal, Rasipuram and Tiruchengode taluks in the Salem district; and

(b) whether the Government will be pleased to favourably consider the request owing to the prevailing water scarcity in the district?

A.—(a) The Government have received a resolution passed by the Salem District Board at its meeting held on 14th February 1927 requesting them to sanction during 1927–28 a grant of Rs. 50,000 to the taluk boards in the district for the improvement of the water-supply in the rural areas.

(b) The Government have included in the Civil Budget Estimates for 1927–28 a lump sum of Rs. 2 50 lakhs for the improvement of the water-supply in the rural areas of the Presidency. If the Legislative Council sanctions the grant, the claims of the Salem district will be considered with those of other districts when the amount is distributed.

Industries

Government Industrial Institute at Madura.

495 Q.—MR. K. V. R. SWAMI. Will the hon. the Minister for Development be pleased to state—

(a) how many students are studying in the Government Industrial Institute at Madura;

(b) what are the subjects taught at this Institute;

(c) how many students have completed their course since the Institute was started; and

(d) what they are doing?

A.—(a) 86.

(b) The Institute provides apprenticeship training in—

(1) Carpentry and cabinet making.

(2) General mechanics' work.

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- (3) Short special courses in Engine Driving, Motor driving and maintenance and the care and management of industrial machinery.
- (c) Accurate information as to the number of students who completed their full course of training in the Institute prior to its reorganization in 1920 is not available. Fifty-six students have completed their course subsequent to the reorganization.
- (d) Out of 360 who up to March 1920 had been enrolled in the Institute subsequent to its transfer to Government in April 1920, 92 are following the trades they learnt, whilst 13 have been retained in the Institute as paid workers. Of the rest, seven joined the Sappers and Miners as artisans, one became the engine driver of a rice mill and seven joined the railway service. As regards the rest, information is not available.

As regards the fifty-six students who left the Institute since its reorganization in 1920, 28 were long-term apprentices who took either the metal working or the wood working course and 28 were short course students who took the motor driving and mechanism course. Of the 28 long-term students, 16 completed their training at the end of 1925 and five of these are employed in the Madura Mills Company, four in private factories, one each in the Madura and Trichinopoly municipalities, one in Golden Rock Workshops, one in the Madura Government Telegraph office, whilst three are known to have been employed in their respective trades last year for short periods. Of the twelve who completed their training at the end of 1926, two or three have secured suitable posts, whilst the others, it is understood, have not yet been able to find permanent appointments. Of the 28 short-term students referred to above, six are understood to be employed as private motor-car drivers in Madura itself and an equal number outside Madura. Two have started their own private bus service. Information about the remaining 14 is not available at present.

Ink Factory at Madras.

496 Q.—MR. K. V. R. SWAMI: Will the hon. the Minister for Development be pleased to state—

- (a) what is the output of Ink Factory at Madras for 1925–26 and for each of the three previous years;
- (b) what is the reason for the low output, if any;
- (c) whether the whole stock prepared in each year is sold out;
- (d) whether all the Government departments in the Province get their ink supply from this factory;
- (e) if not, why not;
- (f) what is the quantity of ink imported into this province from foreign countries;

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(g) what was the loss sustained in 1925-26 in the working of the factory ;

(h) what were the reasons for it ;

(i) whether there are any students learning the manufacturing of ink ; and

(j) if so, how many ?

A.—(a)

Year.		Fluid ink.		Ink powder.
1922-23	...	2,293½ gals	...	Not manufactured.
1923-24	...	3,548 "	...	...
1924-25	...	3,350 "	...	79,442 tins.
1925-26	...	1,543 "	...	71,585 "

(b) As regards the low output of fluid ink in 1925-26, the attention of the hon. Member is invited to the explanation given by the Director of Industries in his letter No. 214-E/26, dated 13th August 1926, printed in G.O. No. 1628, dated 15th November 1926, which has been placed on the Table of the House.

(c) No.

(d) & (e) The Government departments get their requirements from the Superintendent of Stationery who draws a portion of his supply from the factory. Orders are placed with the factory when it can supply the required article at a price that compares not unfavourably with other quotations

(f) Information is not available with Government ; the value of ink imported in 1925-26 was Rs. 1,60,591.

(g) & (h) The hon. Member is referred to G.O. No. 1628, dated 15th November 1926.

(i) & (j) Applications have been invited from candidates for training in ink manufacture.

Education

Educational Officer for Cuddapah.

497 Q.—Mr. A. PARASURAMA RAO: Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) the number of schools that the District Educational Officer at Cuddapah has to inspect when compared with the average number he has to inspect in the districts in the south ;

(b) whether one District Educational Officer is necessary exclusively for the district of Cuddapah ;

(c) whether the Government will be pleased to consider the desirability of placing one officer in charge of both the districts of Cuddapah and Kurnool ;

(d) whether the Government will be pleased to call for a statement of the number of schools which the District Educational Officers of Cuddapah and Kurnool have each to inspect and did inspect in the year 1926-27 up to February 1927 ; and

(e) similarly, the number of schools inspected by the District Educational Officer of Tanjore district during the same period ?

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- A.—(a) A District Educational Officer has to inspect annually every secondary school for boys and every training school for masters in his district. He has also to pay subsequent visits to such schools as opportunity offers for improvement. He has also to visit elementary schools in his neighbourhood and to advise the District Educational Council on matters pertaining to elementary education

The following table gives the distribution of schools for boys in each of the districts—Cuddapah, Kurnool and the districts in the south :—

Number of schools on 31st March 1926.

Districts.	Secondary Boys'.	Elementary Boys'.	Training Masters'.
Cuddapah ...	9	1,692	1
Kurnool ...	14	1,762	3
South Arcot ...	16	2,263	5
Tanjore ...	40	2,111	3
Trichinopoly ...	14	1,669	3
Madura ...	17	1,464	2
Ramnad ...	20	1,371	2
Tinnevely ...	31	1,902	5

- (b) Under the present policy and organization, a District Educational Officer is necessary for each district.
- (c) The suggestion will be borne in mind when a reorganization of the inspecting agency is taken into consideration.
- (d) & (e) The number of schools which the District Educational Officers of Cuddapah, Kurnool and Tanjore have to inspect is given in (a) supra. The number which each did inspect up to February 1927 is given below :—

Number of schools inspected and visited up to 1st February 1927.

Districts.	Inspected.			Visited.		
	Secondary Boys'.	Elementary Boys'.	Training Masters'.	Secondary Boys'.	Elementary Boys'.	Training Masters'.
Cuddapah ...	7	...	1	...	98	...
Kurnool ...	12	...	3	3	101	...
Tanjore ...	32	...	2	16	47	3

Compulsory education in Dindigul Municipality.

498 Q.—MR. ABDUL HAMID KHAN: Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether compulsory elementary education has been introduced in Dindigul by the municipality;

(b) if so, whether the Municipal Council of Dindigul excluded the Muslim community from the compulsory education scheme;

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(c) whether it is a fact that such an exclusion was made, in spite of the opposition of the Muslim members of the Council and the Muslim community; and

(d) whether the Government will be pleased to take immediate steps to see that the Muslim community is included under the compulsory education scheme?

A.—(a) Yes, in respect of all boys of school age.

(b) & (c) No.

(d) The question does not arise.

Local Boards

Alleged retention of District Board Engineers in the same station.

499 Q.—MR. T. ADINARAYANA CHETTIYAR: Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government are aware of the fact that the present District Board Engineers, Salem and Coimbatore, have been kept in the same stations for nearly a quarter of a century;

(b) whether Government are aware of the dissatisfaction of the public at such long retention of the officers in the same districts; and

(c) whether it is the usual rule not to retain higher officers in the same district for more than a certain number of years?

A.—(a) Yes.

(b) No.

(c) There is no such rule so far as District Board Engineers are concerned.

Land Revenue

Zamindaris in the Presidency.

500 Q.—MR. K. V. R. SWAMI: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) how many zamindaris there are in this Presidency;

(b) what is the area and population of each zamindari;

(c) what peshkash each pays; and

(d) what total revenue each realizes?

A.—(a), (b) & (c) The information is being compiled and will be laid on the table as soon as it is ready.

(d) No public accounts are kept of the revenue of a zamindari.

Revenue collections in the North Arcot district.

501 Q.—MR. T. ADINARAYANA CHETTIYAR: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue and the hon. the Member for Finance be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that in the North Arcot district it is ordered that in the case of revenue collections fractions of an anna have to be treated as one anna; and

(b) if so, why?

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- A.—(a) & (b) There is no order special to North Arcot district. The land revenue due to the Government under each patta in all districts is rounded to the nearest anna in pursuance of the policy of eliminating pies from Government accounts.

Irrigation

Survey of Seethapilleyeru and Pamularu, East Godavari.

502 Q.—Mr. K. V. R. SWAMI: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

- (a) whether a party of two overseers, three lascars and one boring maistri were appointed to survey Seethapilleyeru and Pamularu in Chodavaram division, Rampa Agency, East Godavari;
- (b) what is the object with which the present survey is undertaken;
- (c) whether the above streams were surveyed at any time previously with a view to construct a dam or a reservoir for irrigating Rajahmundry and Peddapur taluks and Chodavaram and Yellavaram divisions;
- (d) what is the result of such survey;
- (e) whether the survey party mentioned in question (a) above is given any instructions, and if so, what are they; and
- (f) whether the hon. Member will place them on the table?

A.—(a) & (b) The attention of the hon. Member is invited to the answer to question No. 438.

- (c) Yes.
- (d) The project was dropped on financial grounds.
- (e) The Government have not issued any instructions beyond sanctioning the establishment required for the investigation of the reservoir across the Seethapalli Vagu. Detailed instructions will be given by the departmental officers.
- (f) Does not arise.

Irrigation of lands in Tiruvannamalai taluk.

503 Q.—Mr. T. ADINARAYANA CHETTIYAR: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

- (a) whether it is a fact that the Tank Restoration Scheme party investigated a scheme to dig a channel from the Pennar river in Tiruvannamalai taluk, North Arcot district, to irrigate portions of Ohengam and Tiruvannamalai firkas;
- (b) how many schemes for irrigation have been investigated in the Tiruvannamalai taluk and for how many of these schemes have plans and estimates been prepared;
- (c) why none of them have hitherto been actually undertaken;
- (d) whether, in consideration of the prevailing water-scarcity in the taluk, Government have any idea of executing any of the schemes which have been investigated during the current year; and
- (e) if not, why not?

A.—(a), (b) & (c) The Government have no information, but have called for a report from the Chief Engineer.

(d) & (e) Do not arise.

II

MOTIONS ON THE BUDGET FOR 1927—28.

DEMAND XV—POLICE—*cont.*

Discussion on Mr. C. V. Venkataramana Ayyangar's motion, viz., to reduce the allotment of Rs. 151.86 lakhs for Police by 5 lakhs, was resumed.

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noon.

* Mr. G. HARISARVOITAMA RAO :—“ Mr President, I rise to support this motion, because the Police department is the longest and the strongest arm of the bureaucracy and unfortunately for self-government and unfortunately for the Reforms, this department is not under the control of the people and the hon. the Law Member is equally so. That was why when yesterday we were discussing the question relating to the Police we had answers which could never satisfy any democracy. I know the hon. the Law Member will retort by saying that in all governments certain things are impossible of explanation in the open House. If we were under a democratic Government we would have placed in that position a man whom we could trust and who with our consent would carry on the administration of law and order and with secrecy. Yet we are called upon to work a democracy which the Government is pleased to say it is prepared to give us. After all, the Police are the guardians of the people and they have the power to help or retard the progress in the matter of freedom. I want to notice only a few details with regard to this department. The punitive Police at Gooty is still there, and I wish the hon. the Law Member could see that it shall be no longer there and the people shall no longer be burdened with the cost thereof. On no grounds of democracy can a punitive Police be established unless and until an emergency arises. In a democracy it is not possible because the people have a right to cut down the expenditure to the lowest minimum. But here is a bureaucracy which makes the claim to have established peace and order in the country, that makes the claim that they have established British peace in India, and yet would not keep to the British democratic notions of peace and order.

“ Now I want to touch on another point, that is, the system of ‘finger prints’ with regard to political prisoners. From whom are finger prints generally taken. They are generally taken from members of registered gangs or persons reasonably suspected of very criminal offences and persons ordered to be deported. But these finger prints are taken from political offenders who are not even convicted. It is a shame to any democratic institution, it is a shame to any civilized constitution, and I hope it will be done away with immediately.

“ As for the Indianization of the Police, the reforms themselves are very touchy about this department. The reforms would give us 50 per cent of the Indian Civil Service within 25 years but they would not give us the same proportion with regard to the Police. Even with regard to that kind of Indianization that has been conceded, what has been done in the Police department? This question of Indianization of the Police department has been in existence from 1902 onwards. One commission after another has spoken of Indianization; and to-day, even when there was a chance for an Indian, an expert Indian to be the Assistant Inspector-General of Police, no chance was given to him. With regard to the District Superintendents of Police from 1902 onwards up-to date, after so much talk of Indianization, after a number of Commissions, after the Lee Commission which was only anxious to make out a claim for European officers, we have

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to-day the spectacle of five Indian Superintendents in all the districts. Even if Indianization has gone on in the spirit of 1902 and 1903, the number of superintendents must have been seven to-day without the Lee Commission and ten with the Lee Commission. Indians are denied opportunities for promotion. It is all very sweet talk about Indianization. We are told 'you are not fit for more Indianization, you are fit only for a modicum of Indianization' and even this modicum is denied to us; because the members of the heaven-born service and its appendages are adepts in making rules and interpreting them to stop the progress of all popular measures of Indianization. Inexperienced Assistant Superintendents of Police who have not passed any tests, and who have not had sufficient experience are promoted over the heads of experienced Indian officers. Thus we see that Indianization is very far from what we have been dreaming of in these reformed council days.

"I have not much time left to me; what I desire to point out to the Government, to you, Sir, and through you, to this House is that it is a sham to tell us that we have any responsibility anywhere, as long as we are put down in the name of peace and order under sections of the criminal codes and Indian Penal Code—even under that section 55 which applies to those who have no ostensible means of living—as long as these are used against us by the police system—which is the hand-maid of the magistracy in this country—I am certain there cannot be the least vestige or indication of responsibility in the constitution."

* Mr. K. KRISHNAN :—"Mr. President, Sir, we have been hearing the discussion regarding the reduction of this grant by 5 lakhs. May I, with your leave, Sir, suggest an amendment that 5 lakhs may be converted into $2\frac{1}{2}$ lakhs so that it may be possible for Government to carry on the administration with that amount, and if any unforeseen circumstances arise and more money is necessary, it will be open to the Law Member to ask for a supplemental grant later on. As it is, seeing that the amount now wanted is far in excess of what it was for the last year, I submit the amount of 5 may be reduced to $2\frac{1}{2}$ lakhs and that the House may be pleased to agree to my suggestion. I request therefore, with your permission, to move my amendment, viz.:

'To reduce the allotment of Rs. 151·86 lakhs for Police by $2\frac{1}{2}$ lakhs.'"

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—"I wish to know before I allow the amendment if any other section of the House is in favour of the amendment, so that I can waive the short notice."

* Mr. S. SATYAMURTI :—"If it is three lakhs, Sir, it may be acceptable."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—"I am not here for bargaining. Since no section of the House is in favour of the amendment I do not propose to waive the objection to short notice."

* Mr. P. BHAKTAVATSULU NAYUDU :—"Mr. President, Sir, of all departments under the Government, this department is swallowing much of the funds of the poor tax-payer without giving any comparative benefit in return. In this small city, there is one Commissioner, two Deputy Commissioners and two Assistant Commissioners and so forth. The reforms have landed us in very many difficulties one of which is this, that the British officer's pay being made non-votable, we cannot touch it. They are in the *sanctum sanctorum* of Government. What are we here for? Only to tear ourselves, and the poor Indian officers and make cuts or reductions in their

[Mr. P. Bhaktavatsulu Nayudu] [23rd March 1927]

pay or number. The English officers are quite safe, and the Lee Commission and such other commissions can always come to their rescue. They are simply laughing in their sleeves when we are quarrelling here over reductions and cuts. There is another scandal going on in this department. The Police Commissioner is paid an honorarium of Rs. 13,000 and odd. An officer applying for an honorarium of Rs. 50 or Rs. 100 does not get the sanction of the Government. But here is a case which the Government tolerates. Besides, the Police Commissioner is not doing this extra duty out of office hours, but he is doing it in his office hours, deputing the Assistant Commissioner to look after the work. What is, after all, the kind of inspection that he is making with regard to the buses? The buses are in no way better for the inspection. It is high time that the Government should take note of it, and appoint a special officer to effectively inspect these buses, as in Madura, Ramnad and other places and relieve the Commissioner of his additional work for which he is paid such a large honorarium. If he is relieved of this additional duty he will be better able to do justice to his actual duties.

"Then, Sir, though there are Commissioners, Deputy Commissioners, and Assistant Commissioners, still burglaries are going on under their very nose and they are not able to investigate them successfully. This is the state of affairs. Again, what is the pay that a constable gets? He is getting Rs. 20. I challenge any Government official here to say whether in this city an ordinary man, a constable, can live on Rs. 20 a month. Perhaps the Government thinks that besides his pay he can make money of his own accord in several ways. This is practically the state of affairs now and it is to draw the attention of the hon. the Law Member to these few facts that I have spoken these words on this motion."

Mr. T. C. SRINIVASA AYYANGAR:—"Sir, I do not wish to make any long speech. There is an impression, and a well grounded impression too, that the expenditure on the Police is extravagant, and I believe, however unpopular it may be in some of its ways, still it is an indispensable department. Therefore a cut of 5 lakhs may be too much, and I think our intention will be carried, without giving room for certification of this amount by His Excellency, if 3 lakhs be substituted for 5 lakhs. If you will permit me, I will move an amendment substituting 3 lakhs for 5 lakhs in the motion before the House."

Mr. SAMI VENKATACHALAM CHETTI:—"A short while ago, when you asked an hon. Member, who had a similar motion on the notice paper whether he was willing to agree to an amendment of this kind to his motion which was proposed by one hon. Member, he declined to accept it and we proceeded with the discussion."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT:—"I wanted to know before waiving short notice whether there was any other section of the House which was in favour of the amendment. For the same reason, I do not allow this amendment also."

* The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR:—"Sir, I propose to speak on the three points which have been made by the hon. Member from Coimbatore. I think it is open to me immediately to point out that from the year 1923 up to now, during the years I have been in office, there has been a retrenchment of Rs. 12,70,000.

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"I shall proceed to point out that by various Government orders".

12-1
P.M

Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR :— "A word of personal explanation, Sir. I said clearly that this year's budget estimate was several lakhs more than the revised estimate of last year".

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :— "Now, Sir, the increments due to the various officers is mainly responsible for the increased provision. I am trying to show now that during my tenure of office there has been a saving of 12 lakhs in the Police department and I propose to detail it now. In the matter of local allowances, revision of abolition gave us a saving of Rs. 60,000, while the abolition of duty allowance to Kallar Special staff resulted in reducing the expenditure by Rs. 4,764. Abolition of hackney and stage carriage allowances account for Rs. 4,908; withdrawal of free quarters concession, Rs. 14,800; withdrawal of bonus to recruits on enlistment, Rs. 9,000; abolition of conveyance allowance and reduction of travelling allowance, Rs. 98,800 and Rs. 2,00,000, respectively. One post of Deputy Inspector-General of Police was abolished as per Council resolution, resulting in a saving of Rs. 24,528. The reduction of police talayaris yielded Rs. 89,230; the restoration of the graded system of pay instead of the time-scale, Rs. 1,00,000; the reallocation of police stations and circles, Rs. 3,45,100; reorganisation of armed reserves in districts, Rs. 50,100; and reduction in the number of sergeants, Rs. 16,000. The result of it is that from 1923 up to now there has been a reduction of Rs. 12,19,000 in the expenditure in the Police department

"The second answer I desire to give is with regard to Indianization. On 1st April 1912 the sanctioned cadre of the superior services was 76 of which 2 were Indians. The present sanctioned cadre is 77 and the number of Indians is 10.

"Now, with regard to the superior offices, the Lee Commission made certain recommendations, and we are bound to carry out those recommendations which have been accepted by Government. Subject to that I may say that there is no post in the Police department, whether the post of Deputy Inspector-General or Assistant Inspector-General which will be closed to an Indian entitled by seniority and efficiency. On the other hand, every encouragement will be given to Indians to aspire to those posts. My point now is that at present, of the sanctioned cadre of 77 ten are Indians of whom two were promoted not more than seven years ago (Voices: 'Permanent superintendents of police?') Yes, ten permanent, including assistant superintendents and deputy superintendents.

"Now I come to the question of the punitive police at Gooty. One hon. Member said that the device was undemocratic. With regard to that I desire to say this: that the punitive police at Gooty was imposed as a result of the Courtenay Report on the troubles engineered by certain people from which the district was suffering. People who were democrats, who were representatives of the district in this House, asked for the imposition. I have got letters from the elected representatives of the district asking for punitive police saying that life will not be safe in that district without the establishment of punitive police. At the present moment it appears that the two combatants have begun to smoke the pipe of peace or are prepared to do so. The moment the two men who are responsible for the trouble come

[Sir O. P. Ramaswami Ayyar]

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to the Collector and say that they have composed their differences, the Government will consider the abolition of the punitive police at Gooty. That is a statement I am entitled to make now and it is an answer in consonance with the democracy of which my hon. Friend, Mr. Harisarvottama Rao, has spoken.

"Sir, the hon. Member, Mr. Bhaktavatsulu Nayudu, spoke of the City Police. If he will compare the figures with regard to Bombay and Calcutta, he will realise that the Force here is comparatively small. Sir, the time is nearly up. I have got a great deal to say with regard to this matter. But what I desire to say is that every attempt is being made to effect retrenchment. With regard to Indianisation of the Police I may say that the Inspector-General of Police has been seconding my efforts in the direction. And I assure hon. Members that no efforts will be spared with regard to the solution of the question of the punitive police at Gooty."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—"I take it that the House is ready for the question. The question is to reduce the allotment of Rs. 151.86 lakhs for Police by Rs. 5 lakhs."

The motion was put and declared lost.

Mr. S. Satyamurti demanded a poll and the House divided thus :

Ayes.

- | | |
|--------------------------------------|--|
| 1. Mr. Sami Venkatachalam Chetti. | 26 Mr. R. Srinivasa Ayyangar. |
| 2. " S. Satyamurti. | 27. Syed Ibrahim Sahib Bahadur. |
| 3. " Chavadi K. Subrahmanya Pillai. | 28. Mr. B. Ramachandra Reddi. |
| 4. " S. V. Vanavudaiya Goundar. | 29. " L. K. Tuljiram. |
| 5. The Zamindar of Kallikota. | 30. " K. R. Karant. |
| 6. Mr. C. V. Venkataramana Ayyangar. | 31. " C. Venkatarangam Nayudu. |
| 7. " T. Adinarayana Chettiyar. | 32. " B. Venkataratnam. |
| 8. " P. Anjaneyulu. | 33. Rao Bahadur C. S. Ratnasabapati |
| 9. " K. Koti Reddi. | Mudaliyar. |
| 10. " P. C. Venkatapati Raju | 34. Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. Patro. |
| 11. " C. S. Govindaraja Mudaliyar. | 35. Diwan Bahadur M. Krishnan Nayar. |
| 12. " G. Harisarvottama Rao. | 36. Mr. P. T. Rajan. |
| 13. " C. N. Muthuranga Mudaliyar. | 37. " T. K. Chidambaranatha Mudaliyar. |
| 14. " Abul Hamid Khan. | 38. Diwan Bahadur P. C. Ethirajulu Nayudu. |
| 15. " K. V. R. Swami. | 39. Muhammad Khadir Mohidin Sahib |
| 16. " Muhammad Meera Ravuttar. | Bahadur. |
| 17. " K. Uppi Sahib. | 40. Diwan Bahadur S. Kumaraswami |
| 18. " C. Marudavanam Pillai. | Reddiyar. |
| 19. " J. A. Saldanha. | 41. Mr. T. M. Moidu Sahib. |
| 20. " C. Obi Reddi. | 42. Rao Bahadur B. Muniswami Nayudu. |
| 21. " U. Ramaswami Ayyar. | 43. Mr. K. Ramachandra Padayaochi. |
| 22. " C. Ramasomayajulu. | 44. " K. Sarabha Reddi |
| 23. " P. Bhaktavatsulu Nayudu. | 45. Rao Bahadur K. Sitarama Reddiyar. |
| 24. Sriman Biswanath Das Mahasayo. | 46 The Zamindar of Mirzapuram. |
| 25. Mr. A. Kaleswara Rao. | |

Noes.

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| 1. The hon. Sir O. P. Ramaswami Ayyar. | 11. Mr. Gnanavaram Pillai. |
| 2. " Mr. N. E. Marjeribanks. | 12. " G. T. Boag. |
| 3. " Khan Bahadur Muhammad Usman Sahib Bahadur. | 13. " V. Pandrang Row. |
| 4. " Mr. T. E. Moir. | 14. " S. H. Slater. |
| 5. " Diwan Bahadur R. N. Arogya-swami Mudaliyar. | 15. " C. B. Cotterell. |
| 6. " Mr. A. Ranganatha Mudaliyar. | 16. Khan Bahadur Muhammad Bazl-ul-lah |
| 7. " Dr. P. Subbarayan. | Sahib Bahadur. |
| 8. Mr. T. R. Venkatarama Sastriyar. | 17. The Zamindar of Seithur. |
| 9. " J. F. Hall. | 18. Mr. H. B. Ari Gowder. |
| 10. " P. L. Moore. | 19. " Balakrishna Shetti. |
| | 20. " J. Bheemayya. |
| | 21. " J. A. Davis. |

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Noes—cont.

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| 22. Rao Sahib M. Hampayya. | 33. Mr. K. Krishnan. |
| 23. Mr. V. Ch. John. | 34. „ K. Abdul Hye. |
| 24. Mahmud Schammad Sahib Bahadur. | 35. „ N. Arpudaswami Udayar. |
| 25. Mr. Muppil Nayar. | 36. The Zamindar of Gollapalli. |
| 26. „ R. Nagan Gowda. | 37. Swami A. S. Sahajanandam. |
| 27. Subadar-Major S. A. Nanjappa Bahadur. | 38. Rao Sahib R. Srinivasan. |
| 28. Rao Bahadur O. M. Narayanan Nambudripad. | 39. Mr. H. F. P. Hearson. |
| 29. Mr. N. Siva Raj. | 40. „ C. E. T. Congreve. |
| 30. „ M. V. Gangadhara Siva. | 41. Sir Alexander MacDougall. |
| 31. „ S. Subrahmanya Moopanan. | 42. Mr. J. Mackenzie Smith. |
| 32. „ S. Venkiah. | 43. Rao Sahib L. C. Guruswami. |
| | 44. Mr. V. I. Muniswami Pillai. |

Ayes 46. Noes 44.

The motion was carried.

* The hon. the PRESIDENT:—"I shall now put the Demand to the vote of the House. The question is

'that the Government be granted a sum not exceeding Rs. 146'86 lakhs minus 5 lakhs for Demand XV—Police for the year 1927-28.'"

The motion as put was carried. The grant was made.

Mr. Sami Venkatachalam Chetti demanded a poll and the House divided thus:

Ayes.

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|---|---|
| 1. The hon. Sir C. P. Ramaswami Ayyar. | 28. Subadar-Major S. A. Nanjappa Bahadur. |
| 2. „ Mr. N. E. Maijoribanks. | 29. Rao Bahadur O. M. Narayanan Nambudripad. |
| 3. „ Khan Bahadur Muhammad Usman Sahib Bahadur. | 30. Mr. T. M. Narayanaswami Pillai. |
| 4. „ Mr. T. E. Moir. | 31. „ N. Siva Raj. |
| 5. „ Diwan Bahadur R. N. Arogyaswami Mudaliyar. | 32. „ M. V. Gangadhara Siva. |
| 6. „ Mr. A. Ranganatha Mudaliyar. | 33. „ T. S. Srinivasa Ayyangar. |
| 7. „ Dr. P. Subbarayan. | 34. „ S. Subrahmanya Moopanan. |
| 8. Dr. (Mrs.) Muthulakshmi Reddi. | 35. „ Chavadi K. Subrahmanya Pillai. |
| 9. Mr. T. R. Venkatarama Sastriyar. | 36. „ S. V. Vanavudaiya Goundar. |
| 10. „ J. F. Hall. | 37. „ S. Venkiah. |
| 11. „ P. L. Mone | 38. „ K. Krishnan. |
| 12. „ Gnanivaran Pillai. | 39. „ K. Abdul Hye. |
| 13. „ G. T. Boag. | 40. „ S. Arpudaswami Udayar. |
| 14. „ V. Pandrang Rao. | 41. The Zamindar of Gollapalli. |
| 15. „ S. H. Slater. | 42. The Zamindar of Kallikota. |
| 16. „ C. B. Cottrell. | 43. Syed Tajudin Sahib Bahadur. |
| 17. Khan Bahadur Muhammad Bazul-ul-lah Sahib Bahadur. | 44. Swami A. S. Sahajanandam. |
| 18. The Zamindar of Seithur. | 45. Rao Sahib R. Srinivasan. |
| 19. Mr. H. B. Ari Gowder. | 46. Mr. H. F. P. Hearson. |
| 20. „ A. B. Shetty. | 47. „ C. E. T. Congreve. |
| 21. „ J. Bheemayya. | 48. Sir Alexander MacDougall. |
| 22. „ J. A. Davis. | 49. Mr. J. Mackenzie Smith. |
| 23. Rai Sahib M. Hampayya. | 50. „ C. E. Wood. |
| 24. Mr. V. Ch. John. | 51. Rao Sahib L. C. Guruswami. |
| 25. Mahmud Schammad Sahib Bahadur. | 52. Mr. V. I. Muniswami Pillai. |
| 26. Mr. Muppil Nayar. | 53. Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. Patro. |
| 27. „ R. Nagan Gowda. | 54. Diwan Bahadur M. Krishnan Nayar. |
| | 55. Khan Bahadur S. K. Abdul Razaak Sahib Bahadur |

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Noes.

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|-----------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| 1. Mr. Sami Venkatachalam Chetti | 16. Mr. C Obi Reddi. |
| 2. „ S. Satyamurti. | 17. „ C Ramasomayajulu. |
| 3. „ C. V Venkataramana Ayyangar. | 18. „ P. Bhaktavatsulu Nayudu. |
| 4. „ T. Adinarayana Chettiyar. | 19. Sriman Biswanath Das Mahasayo. |
| 5. „ P. Anjaneyulu. | 20. Mr. A. Kaleswara Rao. |
| 6. „ K. Koti Reddi | 21. „ R. Srinivasa Ayyangar. |
| 7. „ P. C Venkatapati Raju. | 22. Syed Ibrahim Sahib Bahadur. |
| 8. „ C. S. Govindaraja Mudaliyar. | 23. Mr. B. Ramachandra Reddi. |
| 9. „ G. Hariservottama Rao. | 24. „ L. K. Talasiram. |
| 10. „ C. N. Muthuranga Mudaliyar. | 25. „ K. H. Karant |
| 11. „ Abdul Hamid Khan. | 26. „ C. Venkatarangam Nayudu. |
| 12. „ K. V. R. Swami | 27. „ B. Venkataratnam. |
| 13. „ Muhammad Meera Ravuttar. | 28. Rao Bahadur C. S. Ratnasabapathi |
| 14. „ K. Uppi Sahib | Mudaliyar |
| 15. „ J. A. Baldanha. | |

Neutral.

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| 1. Mr. C. Marudavanam Pillai. | 7. Mr. U. Ramaswami Ayyar |
| 2. „ P. T. Rajan. | 8. „ K. Chidanbaranatha Mudaliyar. |
| 3. Diwan Bahadur P. C. Ethirajulu Nayudu | 9. „ Khadir Mohideen Sahib |
| 4. „ S. Kumaraswami Reddi- | 10. „ T. M. Moudu Sahib |
| yar | 11. Rao Bahadur B. Muniswami Nayudu. |
| 5. Mr. K. Ramachandria Padayachi | 12. Mr. K. Sarabha Reddi. |
| 6. Rao Bahadur K. Sitarama Reddiyar | 13. The Zamindar of Mirzapuram. |

Ayes 55. Noes 28. Neutral 13.

The motion was carried and the grant was made.

DEMAND XVI—PORTS AND PILOTAGE

12-30
p.m.

* The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—“ Mr. President, Sir, on the recommendation of His Excellency the Governor, I move

‘that Government be granted a sum not exceeding Rs. 37 lakh under Demand XVI—Ports and Pilotage.’”

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—“ The question is

‘that Government be granted a sum not exceeding Rs. 37 lakh under Demand XVI—Ports and Pilotage.’”

* Mr. K. R. KARANT :—“ Mr. President, I wish to move

‘that the allotment of Rs. 37,000 for the Office of the Agent for Government Consignments be reduced by Rs. 100.’

“My object is to discuss the activities of the Landing and Shipping Fees Committee of Mangalore, the way they are assigning lands to private owners and the need for bringing the ports under a suitable legislative body. The legislation in respect of ports is rather in a very unsatisfactory condition. In section 33 of the Indian Ports Act, certain rates are fixed by the Government of India. Under section 36, the Government of India authorized the Local Governments to spend the monies they get through some persons or some body of persons. In the Madras Outports Landing and Shipping Fees Act of 1885, there is provision for the collection of fees. In the Madras Presidency there are 104 ports, both major and minor. With regard to some of the minor ports, Government by means of rules framed by them, have appointed what are called Landing and Shipping Committees. The powers of these Committees were stated in an answer to a question put by Dr. U. Rama Rao some time ago. The Committee has power to discuss the budget and sanction expenditure. These ports bring in large income. From the Administration Report of the Presidency for 1925-26, we find that the income is very considerable. I think it is very unsatisfactory to allow these

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[Mr. K. R. Karant]

bodies to spend such large amounts, since their constitution is not put on a satisfactory legal basis. As regards the number of members in each committee, some have six or seven and others eight or nine according to the nature of the port. They are all by nomination. We find the European element predominating. For instance, in Mangalore out of a total strength of nine members there are three Europeans, three Indians, and three officials. From the information which the Finance Secretary was kind enough to supply me, I find that this Government wrote to the Government of India as early as 1921, to put these ports on a satisfactory legislative basis. During the last six years, nothing was done to achieve that object. I submit that it is open to the Local Government to bring in legislation instead of waiting for an Act of the Government of India. In any such legislation, it is very necessary to give considerable voice in the constitution of the committees to the municipalities concerned. The merchants should have a voice also; I do not doubt that the Government also should have a voice. I learn that my hon. Friend Mr. Saldanha brought in a Bill in the last Council to achieve this object, but somehow the Bill did not go through. The present state of legislation in regard to these ports is very unsatisfactory and the sooner it is remedied the better.

"I would like to have an explanation from the Government on one point, because I am not myself well versed in this matter. I find that the Civil Budget Estimates placed before us do not give any account of either the income or the expenditure of these committees. If they are part of the Government, if the income and expenditure are a concern of the Local Government, they should find a place in the estimates. If they are on a par with local bodies, their income and expenditure should be excluded. That is a point on which I should like to have detailed information.

"Coming to the particular port of Mangalore, we find that this committee has no legal legs to stand upon. For the past one or two years, they have gone to the length of even assigning lands in the port. In the town of Mangalore the only frontage is the river side, of which more than half is taken up by the port. The income of the committee was about Rs. 70,000 as against an expenditure of Rs. 41,000 in 1925-26. Reclamation has been going on in that port; land is reclaimed by spending large sums of money. Without any profit to the Government, the committee has been assigning lands to private owners. In one case even before the municipality was consulted in the matter, a building worth about Rs. 3,000 had been put up by the assignee. In February last one person got an assignment of land; of course, the Collector was a party to this assignment even though the municipal council was against it. Without the concurrence of the municipal council, it is not advisable to allow this body to go on assigning lands to private owners in a prominent part of the town.

"Secondly, Sir, the work of reclamation by dredging is carried on a very extravagant scale. I am supported in this statement by G.O. No. 615, Finance (Marine), dated 10th November 1926, kindly given to me by the Finance Secretary. The cost of dredging here is considerably more than in the other ports."

* The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR:—"On a point of order, Mr. President, I have been listening with very great attention to what has fallen from the hon. Member and I find that the whole matter is entirely

[Sir C. P. Ramaswami Ayyar] [23rd March 1927]

cut of order. This is a grant for the office of the Agent for Government Consignments, Madras. All these ports such as Mangalore and Tuticorin are run by local bodies. My hon. Friend has raised some questions as to the manner in which these local bodies conduct their affairs. Since they are local bodies, their activities and their finances do not come in the budget at all. It appears to me that it is not relevant to the grant now under discussion."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT:—"Just as the constitutional question was raised in connexion with the pay of the establishment of the Private Secretary to His Excellency the Governor, so if this subject is under the control of the Government and if it is possible for them to rectify the defects brought to their notice by an enactment or otherwise, will this not be in order?"

* The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR:—"That was why I did not object so long as the hon. Member put forward the question about legislation. I am prepared to answer that part of the question. But the hon. Member referred to the activities of the committee, especially the assignments of lands and other matters, with which the Government cannot interfere to set right. To the extent to which the Government can do anything in this matter, I grant that the matter can be raised."

* Mr. K. R. KARANT:—"I submit I am perfectly in order for this reason. These committees constituted by the Government have no legal basis whatever. I do not know the authority under which they are constituted. Is it by any Act or by any rules made under the Indian Ports Act or the Outports Landing and Shipping Fees Act that this so-called local body is exercising these powers?"

* The hon. the PRESIDENT:—"Does the hon. Member say that these local bodies are exercising powers not conferred by statute and that the Government is responsible for checking them?"

* Mr. K. R. KARANT:—"That is my submission, Sir."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT:—"The hon. Member says that these local authorities are exercising powers not vested in them and it is the duty of the Government to check such exercise of jurisdiction not vested in them. Therefore he is criticizing the Government."

* The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR:—"Even then, when I am asking for money for the office of the Agent for Government Consignments, does not the rule say that the question now raised should have some relation to that office?"

* The hon. the PRESIDENT:—"We are not discussing an item in a grant, but the whole grant."

* The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR:—"There is nothing else under the grant except the establishment of the Agent for Government Consignments."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT:—"But the House has hitherto allowed the practice of discussing general principles of policy of Government when discussing these demands for grants. I think I may allow the hon. Member to go on."

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* Mr. K. R. KARANT :—“ I was saying that the work of dredging in the Mangalore port is carried on on an extravagant scale. As stated in the above Government Order while the cost was 4 annas 1 pie per ton in Cocanada for one dredger and 2 annas 8 pies per ton for another, 3 annas per ton in Negapatam, it was 7 annas in Mangalore and even 10 annas 7 pies as in 1923-24. This excessive cost is due to the fact that this work is not done through the Public Works Department but it is given to private contractors without properly calling for tenders or publishing them. This committee is spending about Rs. 41,000 every year without any legislative sanction and in an unsatisfactory manner.”

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—“ I am sorry the hon. Member is traversing far beyond the limits of the object he has mentioned in his notice. He has simply mentioned that he wants to discuss the activities of the Landing and Shipping Committee of Mangalore, the way they are assigning lands to private owners and the need for bringing the port under suitable legislative provision.”

* Mr. K. R. KARANT :—“ What I am saying comes under the first portion of the reason stated in my notice, i.e., to discuss the activities of the committee, the way they are spending monies.”

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—“ The hon. Member has far exceeded the time limit.”

* Mr. K. R. KARANT :—“ I have mentioned these points and I request the Government to take urgent notice of them.”

* The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—“ Mr. President, Sir, I am sorry that I cannot do adequate justice to the complaints, no doubt legitimate to certain extent, which have been put forward on the floor of the House.”

“ The only notice which I received was that something was going to be talked about the activities of the Landing and Shipping Committee of Mangalore. At the present moment I am not able to answer in regard to the particular activities of which mention has been made, save that the Government will enquire into the matter ; and to this extent I can assure my hon. Friend that the Government have arrived at the conclusion that assignments of lands by these committees are not to be made without the concurrence of the municipality and of the Government. Moreover, the particular assignments made by Krishnan and Vasudeva Subbaraya Mallayya are subject to the sanction of the Government, and when the Government have to deal with the matter they will bear in mind the remarks made by my hon. Friend and see that assignments are not made in future so as to jeopardise the frontage of which mention has been made by the hon. Member. 12-45 p.m.

“ With regard to the Landing and Shipping Committee, I may say that it is not a statutory body. It has functioned as an executive body for nearly thirty years and till now no complaints have been made. The question raised by my hon. Friend will be looked into. I may say, however, that this Government have expressed their clear opinion to the Government of India that the outports landing and shipping committees should be responsible bodies and that they should be legalized. We shall bear in mind what has fallen from the hon. Member about legislation irrespective of what the Government of India are going to do. I may inform the House that in 1926 the hon. Member Mr. Saldanha gave notice of a Bill to make the

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Landing and Shipping Committee a legal authority and to make it representative. The Bill did not succeed in the ballot and it finally lapsed. We shall not take advantage of that circumstance. We shall consider the question of legislation as early as possible."

* Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—"I am thankful, Sir, that the Government have already taken up the matter in which the people, especially the mercantile community in ports like Mangalore, feel very keenly. What is called the Shipping and Landing Fees Committee is an irresponsible and unconstitutional body doing many things in a very irresponsible and irregular manner. They are under very little control by the Government. It is strange to see that the hon. the Finance Member has not included these fees along with the general revenues in view of the fact that the body has absolutely no legal basis. The incomes from the ports under the Madras Act and collected by the landing and shipping committees should have been brought under the Revenue head and shown in the budget estimate. This point, I think, has been overlooked and until the new Act is passed this income should be brought under the supervision of the Legislative Council. The Port officers are aware that the Legislative Council has no control over the fund and act in an arbitrary fashion. I appeal to the hon. the Finance Member until the committees are legalised that the fees should be included in the budget estimates.

"Secondly, I hope that the Government will recognize the principles of the Bill of which I gave notice and will incorporate them in the Bill to be introduced into the Council. The matter is very urgent as lakhs of rupees are being expended in an almost irregular manner. If the Government do not bring forward a Bill I shall have to press my own Bill. But hon. Members are aware of the difficulties which a Bill has to undergo. It has to be balloted. It has to be sent to the Council office in time. Notice was given by me this time of this Bill a little late. So, it has been put off."

* The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—"Even Mr. Saldanha was caught napping." (Laughter.)

* Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—"It is a regretful matter. Sometimes it happens like that.

"I hope that the Government will take urgent steps to bring forward their own Bill or to facilitate my Bill being passed by the House as soon as possible. Meanwhile, I hope the hon. Law Member will more carefully scrutinize the doings of the ports committees not only of Mangalore but elsewhere also. I think that the Government have some sort of control or supervision over these committees. Otherwise, I would ask, who is to control them, and can the Government do anything. They are not elected bodies; they are not responsible to us. They are appointed nominally by the Government. They are recommended by the Collector. We have got a body which is responsible neither to the Government nor to the people on the spot. The mercantile community is little represented on it. The people of Mangalore are put to great inconvenience on account of the vagaries of the Port officer. Such grievances as the stocking of firewood have been brought to the notice of this House by means of questions."

Mr. K. R. KARANT :—"Sir, in view of the promise given by the hon. the Law Member I withdraw my motion."

The motion was, by leave, withdrawn.

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Mr. ABDUL HAMID KHAN :—" Sir, I beg to move—

' to reduce the allotment of Rs. 37,000 for the office of the Agent for Government Consignments by Rs. 100.'

" My object is to discuss the Indianization of service. I only wish to say this much. . . . "

The hon. Mr. T. E. MOIR :—" May I ask which service does the hon. Member want to be indianized ? "

Mr. ABDUL HAMID KHAN :—" Lighthouse service."

* The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—" I think I did not make myself clear. At page 202 of the Budget Estimate, it will be seen that the only items included under this demand are the Agent for Government Consignments, Overseers, Telephone charges and contribution towards the pay of the Agent, Government Consignments. There is nothing else."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" As a matter of fact, there is no Government service."

The motion was deemed not to have been moved.

Demand No. XVI was put to the House and carried and the grant was made.

DEMAND XVII—SCIENTIFIC DEPARTMENTS (OTHER THAN HYDRO-ELECTRIC SURVEYS)

The hon. Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN :—" Mr. President, Sir, on the recommendation of His Excellency the Governor, I move

' that the Government be granted a sum not exceeding 56 lakh under Demand XVII—Scientific Departments (other than Hydro-electric Surveys).' "

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" The question is

' that the Government be granted a sum of Rs. 56,000 under Demand XVII—Scientific Departments (other than Hydro-electric Surveys).' "

* Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—" Sir, I beg to move

' to reduce the allotment of Rs. 54,100 for Provincial Museums by Rs. 100.'

" My object is to discuss the question of a suitable journal or bulletin for the Madras Museum with an up-to-date catalogue for sale.

" I shall be very short on this point. These are days of high ideals of university reforms, of post-graduate courses and of scientific research. Old dreams are being fulfilled now to some extent. In any case, I hope under the inspiration of the new University Act and because we have now as Chief Minister one having the Education portfolio, a man of high educational and university attainments, that there would be much improvement. What strikes me is that there is no magazine at all in this city, representing the culture and research of the university and the post-graduate courses. Even the Museum bulletin which was a very valuable one has been discontinued. (Mr. S. Satyamurti: ' Which museum ? ') (Laughter.) I thought my hon. Friend representing the University knew that there was only one museum. That bulletin was edited by the Director of the Museum. The archæological and ethnological portion of the museum is the best one in the whole of India,

[Mr. J. A. Saldanha]

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of which we ought to be proud. We can be proud of the bulletin also. I learnt after enquiries that that bulletin had ceased to exist. Mr. Thurston who has done very much to add to the ethnological learning in the city, edited the bulletin with marked ability. I regret to find that it is no longer existing. What I would urge is that attempts should be made to revive that journal by the authorities concerned and that this grand museum of this city be made to have an exponent of its culture, of its advance and of its progress. The people will thereby know what progress the museum is making and what it teaches. In that way, Madras culture will be propagated elsewhere. I hope that this point will be borne in mind by the hon. the Minister for Education who has got so many other schemes, and will be included in the schemes of educational reform which he will carry through sooner or later."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—"The question is

'to reduce the allotment of Rs. 54,100 for Provincial Museums by Rs. 100.'"

* The hon. Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN :—"Mr. President, Sir, since the year 1907, the Government have under consideration the idea of republishing a bulletin of this kind and recently we have issued instructions to the Director of the Museum that this bulletin should be reissued. It is in preparation and I hope it will be soon published."

Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—"I withdraw my motion"

The motion was, by leave, withdrawn.

* Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—"Sir, I move

'to reduce the allotment of Rs. 2,300 for Donations to Scientific Societies by Rs. 100.'

"I wish to pursue the course of thought I had in mind, i.e., encouragement of research, etc., in this city. What I wish to know is why we should give a grant to the Oriental Society in Poona. It is very creditable that this Government are encouraging culture in the city of Poona. I wish to mention that the Government are doing little towards the encouragement of research work in this city.

1 p.m. "I do not find any special grant for this purpose in the budget estimates except the grant that is given to the University for the Oriental Institute. I found among the resolutions for the Senate meeting, one recommending the publication of a University journal. Probably, the resolution has not been passed; but they are in want of funds for the publication of a suitable University journal. I may point out, Sir, that first of all we want a society for this town just like the one in Poona, for research work. The Research Institute which has already been established by the University is not of a wide scope. I urged last year during the discussion which arose then,—but my point was very much misunderstood by my hon. Friend, the then Minister for Education—that in the research into the languages, it is not enough to take into account only what are called the advanced languages like Tamil, Telugu, Kanarese and Malayalam; but that it is necessary to take into particular account the less advanced languages also; that is, the languages which have no literature, which have no grammar of their own or which have not been studied by scientific men. We have had a few scholars like Kittel and Caldwell, who studied the Badagara and Kodagu languages, and I may also mention the name of Dr. Grierson who has been very serviceable in this

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[Mr. J. A. Saldanha]

respect. But there is more need for research into these minor languages. A comparative study of all the languages, the lexicon and the origin of the languages, the progress they have made, their movements, their shifting from different parts of India to their present location, etc., would show for instance how Tulu language spoken by about 5 lakhs of people is wedged in between two languages at present, Kanarese and Malayalam. These are points which are, I am afraid, overlooked by the Research Institute which has been founded. The reason for it is that there are no funds available for this purpose. This Government is so generous as to endow an institute in the Bombay Presidency. I hope the Government will find a body here or at least encourage the establishment of a body which may have a wider scope for research, wider than that which the Oriental Research Institute has, just as wide as the Bhandarkar Institute at Poona or like the other institutions at Bombay. In order to run this institution, scholars could be found if Government is prepared to give a donation or contribution in the same generous manner as they give to the Bhandarkar Institute."

* The hon. Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN :—" Mr. President, this donation of Rs. 1,000 which my hon. Friend refers to is to the Bhandarkar Institute and is an all-India question and not merely a Provincial question. This is paid towards a revised edition of the Mahabharata which is not now available, and the Government of Madras decided that it was an all-India question, and that this donation should be given as long as the book was under preparation and until the work was completed. My hon. Friend's remarks about research in other languages being undertaken is a matter for the Syndicate of the Madras University and we have given them a grant towards the establishment of an Oriental Institute. I am sure if my hon. Friend who, I believe, is now a Member of the Senate—on which I congratulate him—will only refer this matter to the Senate, the University will consider favourably the question of the grant for the Tulu language and the other languages which my hon. Friend has in mind."

* Diwan Bahadur M. KRISHNAN NAYAR :—" Is my Friend the hon. the Minister for Education in a position to say whether other Provincial Governments are also paying contributions to this society? I want to know whether he knows it is so."

* The hon. Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN :—" I am not so certain of it. I know that the Bengal Government is also paying a contribution towards the edition of the Mahabharata."

* Mr. L. K. TULASIRAM :—" Sir, rising to speak on this question relating to scientific societies, I find that the utterances of hon. Members have been more for Indianization and Indianization but, then, this is the question the solution of which will ask us not to go into the question of Indianization. I would specially refer to the question of starting a scientific glossary for determining the equivalents of scientific terms in Dravidian terms. If our benign Government under the able and highly educated Minister for Education will at least make it a point to start a scientific glossary for the Dravidian languages, I think hundreds of teachers will take up the work in hand. All the Telugu and Tamil classics, especially in scientific subjects like Industries, are not being taken up on account of the want of scientific

[Mr. L. K. Talasirani]

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terms relating to Chemistry, Physics, etc. Sir, I would ask that instead of giving petty sums like Rs. 2,300 only, i.e., in hundreds and thousands instead of in lakhs, scientific societies ought to be developed. I know that the Nagari Pracharini Sabha of Benares has spent nearly 12 years in editing a scientific glossary of Hindi terms. That glossary is now available as a text-book for being followed by this Government. Really the terms are all there and the Hindi equivalents are all there; but what we want is equivalents in Tamil, Telugu, Malayalam and Kanarese. If this subject is handled in the spirit in which it deserves to be handled, I believe the whole public, especially the Dravidian public, will be greatly and highly indebted to the Madras Government. I only want to draw the attention of the hon. the Minister to the fact that if he wants to perpetuate his name, if he wants to see that in his term he does something for the elevation of scientific societies, he should start a body for translating the vernacular terms and publishing a scientific glossary of Dravidian terms."

* Mr. A. KALESWARA RAO :—" Mr. President, I wish also to say a word about the necessity for the Government taking action on this matter of getting prepared a glossary of suitable scientific terms in all the Dravidian languages, particularly with a view to the introduction of vernacularization of the teaching of all non-language subjects in schools and colleges. There has been an agitation going on for the last several years that at least up to the School Final class all non-language subjects should be taught through the medium of the principal vernaculars of this Presidency. When we ask for it, the Government say that there are no suitable text books on Mathematics, Chemistry, Physiology, Botany and so on. That difficulty can only be solved by the Government taking some action in this direction. The Nagari Pracharini Sabha of Benares has done wonderful work in this direction, and after the Vignana Chandrika Mandali, an association to publish books in Telugu in all these subjects, invoked the aid of that Nagari Pracharini Sabha, that Mandali was able to do something in that direction. They have published about 25 books on various scientific subjects, but Government ought to do much more than this. Instruction should immediately be given through the medium of vernacular up to the School Final class at least. This must be done at once. With these observations, Sir, I support the motion."

* The hon. Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN :—" Sir, I am quite aware of the fact that the difficulty about vernacular being adopted as the medium of instruction in non-English subjects is due to want of scientific terms in the vernacular languages; but I think that is a matter well within the purview of the University. Under section 4, sub-section (3) of the Andhra University Act, one of the objects of that University is to promote the development of and the study of Telugu, Kanarese, Urdu and Oriya and their use as media of instruction and examination. Once the University decides upon that language being the medium of instruction, I am sure the University itself will, through its publication bureau, find out some means of carrying out this object. I have no doubt that my hon. Friends who raised this question are aware of this fact that the Usmania University is itself publishing, through its professors, text-books in scientific subjects and adopting Urdu as the medium of instruction."

* Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—" I do not want to press my motion, Sir."

The motion was, by leave of the House, withdrawn.

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* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" I will put the Demand to the House. The question is that Government be granted a sum not exceeding Rs. 56,000 under ' Scientific Departments (other than Hydro-Electric Surveys) ' for the year 1927-28."

The Demand was put to the House and agreed to and the grant made.

DEMAND XVIII—EDUCATION—RESERVED

* The hon. Mr. T. E. MOIR :—" Mr. President, Sir, on the recommendation of His Excellency the Governor, I move

' that a grant not exceeding Rs. 7.02 lakhs be made under " Education—Reserved " . '"

* Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR :—" Sir, I beg to move.

' that the allotment of Rs. 5,900 for pay of Establishments be reduced by Rs. 100. ' (To discuss the whole policy of European education.)

" I do not want to speak much on this subject, Sir, as this is a question which has been discussed both outside this Council and inside it, more than once. I shall first of all make it clear that the idea of such of the Members as have moved any token motions on this subject is not to reduce the whole amount because we are as much interested in the education of Europeans and Anglo-Indians as in the education of the Indians as a whole, and if left to ourselves, we would probably move for larger grants for these various education departments. Our only objection is to the view that the two communities, Europeans and non-Europeans, should be educated separately and that their institutions should be conducted, managed and inspected separately. The one important object that we want to achieve by the amalgamation of these two departments and by having mixed schools is to give an opportunity to young boys and girls of all the communities in this country to mix freely with each other.

" If it is alleged that the European boys and girls are superior in their moral behaviour and in other things, certainly we would say that by mixing with them there would be better understanding on the part of our Indian boys and girls. But, on the other hand, many of us think that the character and the spirit of patriotism, so far as this country is concerned, on the part of European and Anglo-Indian is not improved as much as we should like, simply because from their early childhood they have been kept in a place of reservedness and to some extent made to feel that they are superior to the Indian boys and girls. I know that under some rules a small proportion of the pupils in European schools may be Indians and I may say personally that I am not in the least prejudiced against these European schools, because my own daughters for want of better Indian schools in the neighbourhood of my house have had to go to a European school and receive education there. The fact is that even admission to a small number of Indian boys and girls into the European schools is very limited. The restrictions are very great and they are, I believe, asked to pay a larger sum of school fees than the European boys and girls. There is also some discretion vested in the headmasters or the headmistresses of particular schools in selecting Indian boys

1-15.
p.m

[Mr. C. V. Venkataramana Ayyangar] [28rd March 1927]

and girls and I do not know under what rules that only children belonging to what are accepted by these headmasters and headmistresses as respectable families of Indians are taken into these schools. There is no doubt that the Government expenditure on education per pupil in the European schools is much larger than in Indian schools and, what is more, I do not see any reason as to why there should be separate Inspectors and separate inspecting establishments for European schools. That means not only unnecessary cost, but unnecessary travelling allowances also. If a person, for instance, goes to Coimbatore to inspect a large number of Indian schools, he cannot inspect the three or four European schools that are maintained there and the same for the Nilgiris. Therefore, from the point of view of the general interests of the country as well as of retrenchment, we should certainly find early means of having mixed schools. We are talking of Swaraj and even the Government seem to expect that some day or other,—though from their point of view that day is expected to be far away,—that some day or other, Sir, Swaraj will be given us and I suppose that under the Swaraj the Europeans and Anglo-Indians will not claim any separate schools for them; especially, so far as Anglo-Indians are concerned, I know many families from their habits and manners are in several cases same as Indians and their families, and their residences and all these things are practically the same as Indians. From their childhood, although they do not have such conveniences and comforts in their own homes, these Anglo-Indian boys and girls are made to presume some superiority in the schools and I am afraid, morally speaking, that leads to bad results.

“I think that recently I read somewhere that the Government of India is going to take this subject as a central subject. So far as finances are concerned, though small, there will be a saving, I believe, so far as this Government is concerned, but if this Government is asked for opinion I would rather request this Government to express the undesirability of perpetuating this difference in the education between the various communities. And if this is granted, whether this education becomes central or provincial, it is very desirable that there should be nothing like reservation in the whole of the system of education for Europeans and Anglo-Indians. The sooner this mixed education is given effect to the better. With these few words, I propose the reduction.”

* The hon. Mr. T. E. MOIR :—“I propose, in speaking on this motion, to confine myself entirely to the points which have been raised by the hon. Member from Coimbatore. I feel unable to say much on the important question which he has raised as to whether European education should be handed over to the central control of the Government of India or retained as a provincial subject. That is a matter which has been raised and to which a considerable amount of attention is at present directed. But it has certainly not yet arrived at any stage on which a definite pronouncement could be made. Perhaps I may dispel any false anticipation that may have been raised and contradict the idea that by its transfer to the Government of India, the provincial Governments will be saved the amount of expenditure which they at present incur, because European education is one of those items which were taken into consideration when the financial relations between the Central and Provincial Governments were fixed and, even assuming that it were taken under the control of the Central Government, there is no

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doubt that a readjustment of these financial relations would be made on the basis of expenditure, say, of a certain number of years. As to whether that transfer would be desirable or not, it is obviously a matter in which the European members of this House are very largely interested. I think their attitude would be largely determined by the attitude taken towards the educational aspirations of the community and its needs in provincial councils and might I point out that I hardly think that the hon. Member would receive or is entitled to receive very much support from the community for his suggestion that the separate schools should be abolished and that the Anglo-Indian community should receive education in the ordinary schools of the country? The position is this. They do attach great importance to education in their own home language. They do also lay great stress on adhering to what they regard as their own culture and their own traditions. Can any one blame them? That feeling seems to be universal in this country. Why have we got a Telugu University, why have we a demand for a Telugu province; it is in order that a certain section of the community may have greater power and opportunities for expressing its own culture and traditions and for improving or maintaining the standard of that language which it regards as its own. And, so far as I know, it is not that the community is hostile to other communities; and I could wish less stress had been laid by the hon. Member on the occasional lack of mutual understanding which does arise. Might I give him an example from my own experience. I had an opportunity the other day of presiding at the sports of the European schools in Madras. As the hon. Member has stated, there is no complete exclusion of Indians from these schools. In fact, up to a certain percentage the admission of Indians is allowed and I believe encouraged. Perhaps the most successful performer at their gathering was a young Muhammadan boy, a very promising athlete. I can only say this that none showed greater pleasure and appreciation of his performances than his own schoolmates belonging to the Anglo-Indian community. Of course, it is essential that so long as the Anglo-Indian community is here it should be permitted to retain its own language and traditions, and that in the schools in which it is educated it should be allowed to adhere to that language as the medium of instruction and that tuition should be based on those traditions and that culture to which it is attached. Some people feel that there is no advantage in that, but I know that there are many Indian gentlemen who do think that it is an advantage that their sons and daughters should be educated in institutions in which special attention is given to the English language. Of course, the number of schools under the European Code in respect of which such a desire is likely to be expressed is comparatively small, because the feeling is, I think, is confined to the more wealthy and more educated sections of the Indian community who resort only to the best schools in which (best schools) the highest traditions of the European system of education are maintained. Personally I see no reason why Indian gentlemen who wish to send their children to such schools should not be given such opportunities as are possible.

"One more point. I do not know what system the hon. Member suggests should be replaced for the discretion which is vested in the headmasters and managements of these schools as to the admission of Indians. It seems to me a matter of very great discretion which must be entrusted to the headmasters or, as is sometimes the case, to the boards of management. I do not propose to fetter their discretion so long as I think it is properly used.

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“The hon. Member has also raised the point as to a separate Inspector. If you have a separate system it seems to me that you must have one officer who is in charge of that system. It would be impossible, I think, to deal with European education except as a self-contained subject. If reports were to be received from about 15, or it may be 20, different educational officers, in the case of some of whom—say, on the Nilgiris—European education looms largely and in the case of others is confined to some small isolated school at some railway station in a corner of the district, no coherent or general policy could be pursued. And let me say that there are many problems in connexion with European education. It is not a question of the number of pupils. Personally I find from the experience I have had that European education raises as many different problems as I found when I happened to be concerned with Indian education and it is not only a question of numbers. I think, Sir, I have dealt with all the points which have been raised by my hon. Friend from Coimbatore.

“The hon. Member from Coimbatore has reminded me that he mentioned the question of higher school fees for Indian students. As far as I remember, that question was dealt with last year. If I remember right, I was able to give him an assurance that if there was any differentiation it would be dealt with and I am under the impression that it has been dealt with, that Indian children attending these schools are not charged higher fees than the fees recognized under the Code. There are of course Anglo-Indian children who get certain concessions, but that is in connexion with the particular Code under which they come. But I shall verify the point again. But I do not think there is one scale of fees under the Code for Indians attending these schools and another for Anglo-Indians. I promise the hon. Member that I will go into the question.”

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—“I was informed that it is the wish of the leaders that to-day the Council should adjourn at 4-45; and therefore the Council will now adjourn and it will re-assemble after lunch at 15 minutes after 2.”

After Lunch (2-15 p.m.)]

* Mr. G. HARISARVOTTAMA RAO :—“Mr. President, Sir, when the hon. the Finance Member began to give his explanation I was surprised as to whether I was before a gentleman of British extraction or before a gentleman of the ante-diluvian Chinese origin. The Englishman in India has been telling us of a social democracy, of equality in social matters, of equality in democratic matters, and he claims to be separately educated in India with a separate European Education department. It is a pity, Sir, that the Anglo-Indian community, the domiciled community in India should be involved in this matter. I want to tell my brethren of this country, be they Anglo-Indians or others, that I have absolutely no objection to education through the vernaculars. And if separate schools are felt necessary in the earlier stages for boys, so that they may be educated in their own language, English, I certainly have no objection. But I object to this kind of reservation, to this kind of racial superiority exhibited even in matters educational, even in matters where my child has a right to deal with the child of Mr Moir on terms of equality, to kick and be kicked, to praise and be praised, to understand and be understood, which is my right if the Commonwealth of the British Empire is ever to be achieved. Does

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Mr. Moir honestly contend, Sir, that the social differences between the European and the Indian make it imperative to-day that education should be separately in the hands of Europeans in India? If he does contend like that, how does he come forward and tell us that in the schools in this country all should be treated alike? How can he remain in this Government for one moment longer and speak of equal opportunities for all castes in this country and for all sections of the people? The European is really the super-Brahman of this country. The Brahman community, my community, has been very often attacked as conservative, as standing in the way of the development of this land, but may I ask what does the specialization of education mean? Does it not reflect the utter humiliation of this country? Does it not reflect the boasted superiority of the European when he says 'my culture'. What is India for? Why is the Englishman in India for? What has been his boast with regard to India—to develop our culture to bring us into a line with the world—if he says that he should have special and separate education? Does he say, Sir, that the education that we have got in India is of such an inferior quality as to make us unfit for world culture and not British culture or Indian culture? I am afraid, Sir, that in India we have a South Africa in the form of this Research Department. In South Africa we are told that we must rise to the culture of the South African to live there, and in a serious agreement made between this Government and the Government of South Africa this difference of cultures is adumbrated. Does the Government in this land who rule us in our name, who are telling us that we should get self-government within a short time, does the British Government in this country tell us that they form a South Africa so that they might super-impose their culture and language on us, that they might successfully convert us into the Britisher in culture? I would be the first man to protest with all my life against an implication like that, and I hope that this Local Government, before it asks us for a grant like this, would discountenance the argument propounded by the hon. the Finance Member that his culture and his language deserve separation in the country of India where he rules ostensibly for our good, for our development and for the development of world culture. . . ." (Here the gong was sounded and the Member resumed his seat.)

*Mr. J. A. DAVIS:—"Mr. President, Sir, I am sorry that the question of race and racial superiority has been brought into the discussion or the question of the education of a minority community. Sir, I will be the last to suggest any racial superiority or any attempt at superiority. I am sure most of us are quite willing to be educated side by side with the Indians (Hear, hear). The boot is rather on the other foot, and this difference is brought about by the medium of education. I may give one instance. We have got one of the best Indian schools at Ootacamund. I have been most anxious to get admitted into that school Anglo-Indian boys, but it has become almost impossible to do so. We tried to get those boys admitted, but the headmaster said it was impossible. The medium of education there is Tamil and these boys do not know Tamil. Therefore for at least a considerable period there must be this separation of education on the ground of language as media of education. Take the case of these boys who are very respectable boys. They are not averse to attend Indian schools, and they are actually prevented from attending the Indian schools owing to the medium of instruction being Tamil. This is the first point which has to be borne in mind.

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"Secondly, to come to the question of Indian boys being charged more than Anglo-Indian or European boys, Sir, if the question is gone into carefully, you will see that it is not a question of charging the Indian boys more but a question of spending more to teach the Indian boys separately on account of the difficulty of the medium of education. Take an average convent school. They are only too ready to admit Indian boys into the European or Anglo-Indian section of such schools, but they are not able to do this on account of this medium of instruction. They actually go to the extent of doing it. They employ an additional teacher, and they try to charge the boys a little more with the consent of their parents. It is this that is being misunderstood, and, as the hon. the Finance Member has just now pointed out, he has no intention of charging Indian boys attending European or Anglo-Indian schools in India anything etcetera, and I am pretty certain that that objection from the assurance given a little while ago by the Finance Member will completely disappear.

"Sir, there is also the question of the standard of education. Let the Opposition not ask us to reduce the standard of our education. 'Please; by all means, raise the standard of your education, and we shall be the very first to support you. Although the sum spent on European or Anglo-Indian education is negligible compared with the general expenditure on education, we would only be delighted the other side would consent to the raising of the standard. But do not compel us to reduce our standard of education merely because your standard is not as high. We would be, as I have already said, the first to support you in your attempts to better your standard of education.

"There is also another question. Take the European. Per capita he pays proportionately very heavy taxes (A Voice: -- 'Anglo-Indians'?). Not Anglo-Indians. I am speaking of European just now. He pays very heavy taxes."

Mr. S. SATYAMURTI:—"He gets very heavy salaries."

Mr. J. A. DAVIS:—"They are not all public servants. They are the European merchants and planters. About 90 per cent of their children are sent to England for education, and they draw very little on this sum granted here for education. Then, again, the European educates his son up to a certain standard in England to admit of his completing his education in England, as he has to find employment for the majority of them in the colonies or somewhere else. Therefore it is for the maintenance of the standard of education that this separation has to be maintained and, believe me, not for political purposes, much less from a point of racial superiority. As time goes on, it is sure to get righted. So I would ask the other side not to press this question at the present moment. There will come a time when there will be much better understanding between the communities. I may repeat that you may take it from me there is not a question of racial difference or racial superiority in this matter, and I would appeal to the mover not to press this motion."

* Mr. S. ARPUDASWAMI UDAYAR:—"Mr. President, Sir, I have also tabled a motion and I would like to speak on this subject. The point of my reasoning is this, namely, that the separation is justified not on racial grounds but on educational grounds. My Friend the hon. Member for the University is one of the educationists that have been contending for the introduction of vernaculars in all schools as media of instruction. The real importance of the

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educational reform consists in the fact that imparting of instruction through a foreign language entails or imposes a very heavy strain on the mind of the pupil and results in very great intellectual effort. Ideas have to be translated from the mother-tongue into the foreign language. Impressions, images, ideas derived from reading, which consists of descriptions of natural scenery and surroundings relating to foreign countries, foreign customs, habits, institutions, etc., are vaguely present in the pupil's mind. It verily involves a very painful effort for the child to have a clear, definite knowledge of them, to vividly grasp them. Therefore to avoid all such needless intellectual effort and to facilitate correct thinking and correct comprehension of facts taught to the pupil, this provision was made in the educational rules, namely, that in elementary and also in secondary schools vernaculars be the media of instruction for non-English subjects. Judged by this principle of child psychology, I think my friends will concede that in the case of Anglo-Indian boys and girls and especially those of them who are undergoing their education in elementary schools and secondary schools, their being taught all non-English subjects through the media of vernaculars will certainly impose a very heavy strain on them and will subject them to all those intellectual processes and difficulties from which Indian boys and girls have been saved by the liberal provision, I have referred to in the Educational Rules. They will find themselves as it were in a strange atmosphere inasmuch as the things taught to them will appear strange, not familiar to them, accustomed as they are to different habits and customs. Therefore, in the interests at least of those who have to pass through the elementary and secondary school courses, I think this concession should be granted, namely their having separate schools, so that they may be spared all this unnecessary intellectual labour and acquire real knowledge. I know from experience, Sir, that this community is steadily declining in social standing and I would therefore ask my friends in this House to consider the advisability of not insisting upon this separation of schools but on the other hand of even pressing for larger grants for otherwise there is the danger of this community, especially the poorer sections of Anglo-Indians becoming really a burden on the state and even a sort of nuisance because they will go to swell the ranks of the unemployed."

*Mr. C. R. PARTHASARATHI AYYANGAR:—"Sir, I support this proposition on the ground that it is high time for the abolition of all class distinctions, all distinctions of castes, creeds and also of races. It is because there is this racial distinction in this country, every other kind of distinction also crops up and raises its head again and again. In matters of social amenities, it is because there is a sort of understanding that people must give up their feelings and ideas and imitate others that every other evil consequence follows. For instance one of the evil consequences is this. Every one tries to please the officials. He never cares to see what is popular voice or popular opinion. This is the case especially with officials but also with many non-officials. Secondly in the matter of religion, the Christian community is preferred in several ways and grants are made to them for colleges, and they receive favoured treatment in the matter of education.

"They think, Sir, they are a privileged community. In other words the whole thing comes to this; that so long as the separation exists between Europeans and non-Europeans for everything, it follows as a corollary that something is for the superiors and others for the inferiors. (Hear, hear.) That

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can only be avoided when people are young. You can never bend a tree but there you can do it when it is a plant. You should show that they are friends and their destinies are interlinked together. Then naturally the feeling will be one of goodwill. We want the inner feeling of goodwill between race and race and between community and community and that can only be done by education. It is a matter for regret that people who are charged with the administration of this country are not steeped in Indian literature. With all respect may I ask how many have taken the trouble to know what it was? How was it done in the universities of the past? What literature we had in the past, how it was worked out intellectually in the past by our ancestors? Why should we not emulate the examples of the past and try to introduce them in the present? No one thinks of them at present. Education in the past was given in the homes of teachers and people were trained to become great organizers of production and distribution. It is that which made India great in the past. The king's son and the peasant were equal before the teacher. Each one had to prostrate before the teacher and learn, and there was no difference between the prince and the peasant, the high and the low. They learnt at the feet of the same teacher and the link between them was one of discipleship. One great teacher had eight thousand sishyas under him. I would ask all my friends not to sacrifice the history that has been unearthed by great philologists to show that without an University Act that they had trained people in every one of the departments of life which would make them fit for particular calling and which by their capacity they were entitled to learn. So I would suggest that what we want now is the abolition of all distinctions save the one distinction of a longing for knowledge, a longing to serve, a longing to introduce high organised systems of production and distribution. That is the sort of people we want. What does it matter whether a man is European or Indian. Could they not join together and be friendly to each other? By so doing both may be benefited. If the Indian children and the European children are brought up together in the same place of learning there will be opportunities for the European children to learn the Tamil language, and the Indian children will learn the habits and customs and the language of the European children also."

* Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—" Sir, in listening to the speech just made I think I feel myself as if I am in utopia (Laughter). The dreamland of the past and the age of the Vedas, the hon. Member thought were existing at present. It is very good to talk of schools without distinction of race. Of course theoretically I believe in those things. But is it in practice followed? My experience has been very sad in that respect. I need not dwell upon that fact. But the experience of others who have tried to get things on non-class lines or non-racial lines has been perhaps worse than my own. Now in abolishing these schools the difficulty will be very great; the Government may issue all sorts of orders that there should be no racial distinction, but in practice, it will be very difficult for an Adi-Dravida or Adi-Andhra or Adi-Karnataka to get admission even in a non-Brahman school. Difficulties of this sort are very great and almost insurmountable at present. So there is no use decrying European schools on racial grounds. They have their position and for a long time they will have their locus standi not merely on racial grounds but as was pointed out by more than one hon. Member on educational grounds. I do not, Sir, wish to refute the argumen

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on that point. But what I would object to is whether it is an Anglo-Indian, or Brahman or non-Brahman community it should consider itself a privileged community for getting a privileged concession. In regard to a discussion on this matter in the budget of 1924-1925, the hon. Sir Arthur Knapp assured me that there was no privileged grant to European schools. If there was any concession it was in cases of communities who were backward or who may be considered as depressed and who have been denied opportunities. In their case there are concessions of a kind, concessions not because the community is privileged but because these communities deserve to be encouraged by special facilities. But in cases of Europeans, I am sure and I was assured, and I suppose the assurance is based on facts, that no privileged grants-in-aid are given so far as education is concerned. So far as the fees are concerned the question was raised last year as regards Calicut and elsewhere and the position is this. At Calicut both the European boys' schools and the girls' schools are maintained by professors and nuns who belong to my own community. They maintain the schools for the European children, boys and girls. There the difficulty in case of admission of Indian children is this. Of the Indian children that are generally admitted, are some of them Parsees and some other communities who are eager to get English education. The difficulty is to teach them English and English ways and the start is a long one. A couple of years it is necessary to teach them English and English habits so that they may be on terms of equality, I don't call it equality, but easiness. On this ground it is necessary to charge some extra fees. I do not know if they are double. But I think this differentiation can be accepted and should be recognized as a matter of bare justice for the sacrifice of the teacher. Because a large number of the fathers and all sisters in the schools are bound by vows of poverty and chastity they do much educational work at the sacrifice of much of their personal comforts and pleasures in this world and this sort of sacrifice should be recognized generously by us. Of course there are other schools. Considering all these facts and assuming that they are allowed no privileged concessions by Government, we may allow some sort of distinction."

* Mr. R. NAGAN GOWDA :—"Sir, they say that the school house is the training ground for democracy. In England—I believe it is still in practice, that there are exclusive schools for some children. I know, Sir, there are some schools in the United States where only the rich and well-to-do and superior sorts of people are trained. But in that country I know that the people in general have realized that only in the school house they can sow the seeds of democracy of the future citizens of the country. So, Sir, they have started school houses wherein the children of the rich and the poor, the great and the small could meet.

"It is only in the school house, Sir, that the children can meet on a ground of equality. (Hear, Hear). In this country where there is such an enormous difference in the economic levels of the different classes of people it is only, Sir, in the school house that the children can learn to love each other and admire each other, for the different qualities that each community possesses.

"There are a great many things that the European and the Anglo-Indian children can learn from the Hindus and Mussalmans of this country. There is this thing at least, Sir, that we lead a much simpler life than the Europeans and the children of the Europeans can learn it and our own children can also learn some of their traits.

[Mr. R. Nagan Gowda]

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"Sir, in the United States they have devoted their attention to this question and discussed it thoroughly and in all 'civilized' states of that country both the American and Negro children are admitted without any distinction.

"I know, Sir, there are difficulties but they can be overcome."

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* Mr. A. KALESWARA RAO :—"Mr. President, Sir, separate schools do not contribute to a common nationality. It is high time that Government take up this question earnestly and discourage as far as possible this system of separate schools either for Europeans, or Anglo-Indians, or Hindus or Panchamas or Mussalmans. We must all feel that this is our motherland. Even the Anglo-Indians must feel like that. The future India will not be a Hindu India or a Mussalman India or a Christian India. It will be an India of all, including Anglo-Indians. Therefore, once for all learn together and work together for our country. I am glad that the Newington College has been abolished, and the zamindars have come to attend the ordinary schools and colleges like the Presidency College, and mix with other boys freely. Of course, there is the language difficulty. But some provision must be made for it. In primary or secondary schools, the method of establishing separate schools for the Panchamas should be discouraged. They should be admitted into any school. So long as you keep the Panchamas in separate schools and keep them in separate hamlets, untouchability will not go. As for the language difficulty, you can somehow solve the problem. For instance, in the high schools we want the subject to be taught through the medium of vernaculars, and the Muhammadans claim to be taught in Urdu. So our Anglo-Indian brethren may claim to be taught all the subjects in English. Some provision must be made for that. But they must mix freely with all boys. The Government ought not to encourage Europeans and Anglo-Indians to think separately and to study separately. Particularly the Anglo-Indian community has already become Indian. Of course, they must feel that they are Indian and are the children of India as members of other communities are. India does not want to drive away the Europeans or the Anglo-Indians. Only they should live with us as brothers, as equals and not as our masters or as our superiors. With these observations, I support the motion."

* Mr. P. BHAKTAVATSULU NAYUDU :—"A hundred and fifty years of British rule in this country, I think, Sir, is too long a period for such exclusiveness and such other things to disappear at this time. Sir, grown-up people divide themselves into parties and quarrel with each other and try to exclude themselves from one another and keep aloof. At least, in the matter of youngsters why not they be clubbed together in schools? Those airs of superiority, airs of exclusiveness and airs of prestige, of the ruling race over the ruled, why not all these be once for all abolished, and why not the Government be party to do away with these questions of exclusiveness and imperiousness? Sir, if the British Government is really interested in ruling this country, they must equally be interested in seeing that boys in schools at least move in close contact with each other, so that they may understand each other even from their early days. No doubt, Sir, grown-up men in the country, in public and private life, divide themselves and exclude themselves by parties, the Brahman party, the Non-Brahman party, the Justice party, this party and that party and what not party (laughter), and the Government is actually enjoying and laughing in their sleeves, when they find that our people are fighting and quarrelling with each

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other. A house divided among itself is a jolly day for them. While such is the condition, why not the British Government which calls itself a highly civilized Government in all the world and a Government which stands for democracy, why not they in this small thing come forward and say, 'all right we will allow your children and all the rest of the children to read together with our children, at least, so that when they grow up they may be of common utility for the country at large and be subjects of this Government under equal conditions and as good citizens of the country, working in harmony with each other.'

* Mr. S. SATYAMURTI :—"Mr. President, Sir, if I heard my hon. Friend Mr. Arpudaswami Udayar aright, he wanted that this community should be encouraged to take its proper place, among the citizens of India. It is because I believe this kind of spoon-feeding by means of special schools in charge of an Executive Council Member, not even trusting to transfer it to the Education Minister as if they were a special charge on the Government, this kind of spoon-feeding, is not going to encourage them to take their proper place among Indians, we must press this motion before the House. My hon. Friend the Finance Member gave it as a plausible reason that the community would not agree to that. I was somewhat startled by that proposition. Is the Government going to be carried on by the wishes or otherwise of particular communities, who may want this, or who may want that? Have the Government no sense of what the opinion of the country as a whole requires? Then, Sir, he gave with great gusto the illustration of a Mussalman boy who was a prize athlete at the European schools sports the other day. I think the illustration gave his case away. It is because we want to see more Muhammadan boys, more Anglo-Indian boys, more Hindu boys being prize athletes in schools open to all classes, it is because we want special schools to be abolished, we have made this motion. I concede there may be difficulties. But what we protest against this motion is the special treatment meted out to these European schools. The European Grant-in-aid Code is so much more liberal towards the European schools than the Indian Grant-in-aid Code is to the Indian schools. Why should European schools get a preferential treatment? If you cannot abolish those schools at once, do not at least place a premium on those special schools and encourage these unfortunate Anglo-Indian boys and girls to think that they are separate. I know something about that community. Throughout all their lives they aspire to enter European society, though they are not admitted into it, and they will not reconcile themselves to the everyday human fact that their forefathers were born in this country and died in this country, and that they must live and die in this country, and that their children and their children's children must live and die in this country. You cannot abolish that fact. If you want to live with us, teach your children betimes while they are children, before they have formed their tastes and prejudices, to live and move and have their being among Indians. The language difficulty was mentioned by more than one hon. Member in this House. Sir, I am an enthusiastic believer in the mother tongue being the medium of instruction at whatever stage from the *Aksharabhyasam* up to the highest standard of education. I believe it is a law of nature, and anybody who denies it denies truth, and I refuse to argue with him. My hon. Friend says that Anglo-Indians must have English as their language. I join issue with him. The hon. the Finance Member talked of 'home language, home culture and home traditions'. What is the unfortunate home these people have? How many are able to go to England, how

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many people settle there? Why introduce in their minds the idea that they are the descendents of those accidental rulers of this country who came a hundred and fifty years ago?"

The hon. Mr. T. E. MOIR :—"I should very much like the hon. Member to remember what I actually said. They are accustomed to use the English language in their homes, just as the Tamils use Tamil in their homes, the Telugus the Telugu and the Kanarese the Kanarese language, and why not they ask for instruction in English?"

* Mr. S. SATYAMURTI :—"When that idea takes hold of those people, that it is honourable only to become one with Europeans—they would look upon the people in this country as people who could not be touched with a pair of tongs. But many of them speak Tamil freely, and why should you encourage them to speak broken English? Therefore, Sir, I suggest that we must go forward at once and discourage all these special schools and remove all difficulties in the matter of admitting Anglo-Indians in the ordinary schools. I entirely sympathise with Mr. Davis when he said that there are difficulties, but we promise that we shall place no difficulties whatever in the way of the Anglo-Indian boys studying in the Indian schools. We want all Indian boys and girls, all Anglo-Indian boys and girls to learn together, to play together, so that they may grow into equal citizens, with common traditions, and with common culture.

"One more word, Mr. President, and I am done. My hon. Friend the Mover of the motion made a point about the special fees charged for Indian boys in Anglo-Indian schools. This is an anomaly as several other anomalies, if I may say so, which exist in this country. Some time ago, the hon. Mr. Knapp when he was in charge of this portfolio undertook to examine this question and promised to look into it. I want to know what has been done in the matter. It is not for want of sympathy with Anglo-Indians and with their social and educational difficulties that this motion is pressed; but because we want them to take their rightful place, we do not want to encourage these separate, special schools. That is why we press this motion."

* The hon. Mr. T. E. MOIR :—"Mr. President, the debate to which we have listened on this occasion has ranged over a considerable field which it is not in my capacity to deal with within the time at my disposal, and for that reason I do not in the first place propose to follow the hon. Member from Kurnool in his political disquisition, or in his remarks on the subject of equality. We are not discussing equality. We are discussing education. I shall merely make him a present of one remark to-day, a remark which I came across some time ago, that to be continually prating of equality is a sign of inferiority. He has raised the question of equality in this debate, and has spoken of the domiciled community as a race that claims superiority. That is not so and is not the question. The question that we are discussing is what their educational needs are, what do they desire? Is it any more wrong for them to say that they desire to be instructed in the language of their homes than for a member of the Telugu community to desire to be instructed in Telugu? As the hon. Member for the University said . . ."

Mr. G. HARISARVOTTAMA RAO :—"On a point of personal explanation, Sir. I never questioned the language or the needs of the community of which the hon. Member is talking. I questioned the reservation, the right of the Government to control this department differently from the Transferred subjects and treat it in a differential way."

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* The hon. Mr. T. E. MOIR :—"I do not know why the hon. Member should have interrupted me. If my hon. Friend wants information as to the authority under which we act he can get it from this book. We are acting under statutory rules. (Mr. G. Harisarvottama Rao : 'Quite all right'.) I was asking why any community should not desire to be instructed in a language which they regard as the language of their homes; the Telugu community to be instructed in Telugu, the Tamil community in Tamil, the Kanarese community in Kanarese. Why should it be denied to them? There was another word, besides equality, of which we have heard much in these debates, and that is democracy. There are two conceptions of democracy, and the one which the hon. Member for the University and the hon. Member from Kurnool accept is not the conception to which I adhere."

Mr. S. SATYAMURTI :—"On a point of personal explanation. I never said a word about democracy, as far as I remember. The hon. Member may have some other line of attack." 3 p.m.

* The hon. Mr. T. E. MOIR :—"The hon. Member's speech raised the whole question of democracy. There is a form of democracy which acts like a steam-roller. Its ideal of equality is the absolute absence of any distinctions, of any differences, of any individuality, that colourless uniformity, which it seems to me, is what some of the hon. Members who have taken part in this debate desire.

"One hon. Member behind me said that caste and creed must go. His speech was, I recognize, in a far different tone. He is an idealist, and if I may say so, of an impracticable idealism. I cannot say whether centuries hence caste and creed will disappear in this country. But can anyone deny that they exist to-day, that in some respects they are even stronger than a few generations ago? (Mr. S. Satyamurti : 'Thanks to you'.) We are dealing with the present day facts, and those facts exist, caste, creed, differences of tradition, of culture, of religion; we cannot get away from them. But does the hon. Member really think that we are going to solve these questions in India by a steam-roller process which is to wipe out all distinctions between Brahman and non-Brahman, not only that, between Hindu and Muhammadan and Christian. The task for the democracy in this country is not to crush all these divergent elements, but to give them full play and free play in a united community. (Hear, hear.) You cannot in the community of the future disregard the existence of these elements. What does the message to the domiciled community urged by some hon. Members who spoke imply? It is 'we deny your right to cherish your own language, your own traditions. We are not concerned whether that language is good for you or not or whether those traditions are good or bad. You must have imposed upon you a culture and a language prevalent in India.' Does the hon. Member for the University ask us to shape our policy so that all demands for individual expression shall be crushed or disappear? I am glad to think that these are not the views of the majority of this House. I do not believe this House desire to give such a message to the domiciled or any other community. It is like saying if you are in a Telugu country you must become a Telugu, if the Muhammadans are in a minority they shall be forced to become Hindus. (Mr. S. Satyamurti : 'Nothing of the kind'.) Democratic principles are not thus going to be introduced. If these are the ideals that are going to be revived in this country I shall despair of its future. It is true that similar attempts to impose uniformity of thought of culture even of

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creed have been tried in the democratic countries in the West. But they have been found wanting; they have finished. How much more will they in this country. You must give free play to the natural instincts of every section of the community in order to found that democracy in the country to which we all look forward. I do not believe that a majority of this House will agree to this message to the domiciled community which has been urged from the benches opposite, or that they would do so in the case of any other minority community. I sincerely trust that the House will reject the motion now before it."

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—"The question is to reduce the allotment of Rs. 5,900 for pay of establishments by Rs. 100."

The motion was put and declared lost.

Mr. S. Satyamurti demanded a poll and the House divided thus :

Ayes.

1. Mr. Sami Venkatachalam Chetti.
2. " S. Satyamurti.
3. " C. R. Parthasarathi Ayyangar.
4. " M. R. Seturatnam Ayyar.
5. " C. V. Venkataramana Ayyangar.
6. " T. Adinarayana Chettiyar.
7. " P. Anjaneyulu.
8. " G. Harisaravottama Rao.
9. " C. N. Muthuranga Mudaliyar.
10. " Abdul Hamid Khan.
11. " K. V. R. Swami.
12. " D. Narayana Raju.
13. Dr. B. S. Mallaya.
14. K. Uppi Sahib Bahadur.

15. Mr. C. Obi Reddi.
16. " U. Ramaswami Ayyar.
17. " C. Ramasomayajulu.
18. Basheer Ahmad Sayeed Sahib Bahadur.
19. Mr. P. Bhaktavatsulu Nayudu.
20. " A. Kaleswara Rao.
21. " R. Srinivasa Ayyangar.
22. " K. S. Sivasubramanya Ayyar.
23. " L. K. Tulasiram.
24. " K. R. Karant.
25. " C. Venkatarangam Nayudu.
26. " C. Gopala Menon.
27. " M. A. Manikkavelu Nayakar.

Noes.

1. The hon. Sir C. P. Ramaswami Ayyar.
2. " Mr. N. E. Marjoribanks.
3. " Khan Bahadur Muhammad Usman Sahib Bahadur.
4. " Mr. T. E. Moir.
5. " Diwan Bahadur R. N. Arogya-swami Mudaliyar.
6. " Mr. A. Ranganatha Mudaliyar.
7. " Dr. P. Subbarayan.
8. Mr. T. R. Venkatarama Sastriyar.
9. " J. F. Hall.
10. " P. L. Moore.
11. " Gnanavaram Pillai.
12. " G. T. Boag.
13. " V. Pandrang Rao.
14. " S. H. Slater.
15. " C. B. Cotterell.
16. Khan Bahadur Muhammad Bazl-ul-lah Sahib Bahadur.
17. Abbas Ali Khan Bahadur.
18. " H. B. Ari Gowder.
19. " J. Bheemayya.
20. " J. A. Davis.
21. Rai Sahib M. Hampayya.
22. Mr. V. Ch. Jhon.
23. Mahmud Schamnad Sahib Bahadur.
24. Mr. Muppil Nayar of Kavallappara.
25. Subadar Major S. A. Nanjappa Bahadur.
26. Mr. N. Siva Raj.

27. Mr. M. V. Gangadhara Siva.
28. " W. P. A. Soundarapandia Nadar.
29. " S. Subramanya Moopanar.
30. Rao Sahib P. V. S. Sundaramurti Pillai.
31. Mr. S. Venkayya.
32. " K. Krishnan.
33. " S. Arupudaswami Udayar.
34. Swami A. S. Sahajananda.
35. Rao Sahib K. Srinivasan.
36. " L. C. Guruswami.
37. Mr. V. I. Muniswami Pillai.
38. The Raja of Panagal.
39. Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. Patro.
40. Diwan Bahadur M. Krishnan Nayar.
41. Mr. P. T. Rajan.
42. " T. K. Chidambaranatha Mudaliyar.
43. " S. N. Dorai Raj.
44. Diwan Bahadur P. C. Ethirajulu Nayudu
45. Mr. Kadir Mohideen Sahib.
46. Mr. T. M. Moidoo Sahib.
47. Rao Bahadur B. Muniswami Nayudu.
48. Mr. K. Ramachandra Padayachi.
49. " K. Sarabha Reddi.
50. Rao Bahadur K. Sitarama Reddi.
51. Kumararaja of Venkatagiri.
52. Mr. D. Ramachandra Reddi.
53. Rao Bahadur C. S. Ratnasabapati Mudaliyar.

Ayes 27 : *Noes* 53.

The motion was negatived.

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* Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—" I move

' to reduce the allotment of Rs. 5,98,700 for grants to non-Government secondary schools—European by Rs. 100 ' (to discuss the footing on which boarding grant is allowed as compared with that on which these grants are made to Indian institutions, the average rate, etc., and the grounds of discrimination).

" Sir, this refers to a grant for European boarding houses. I am not at all opposing the grant. But what I want to point out is that while the grant to European boarding houses is Rs. 2,22,000 and odd, the grant made to Indian boarding houses is only Rs. 45,000. From the reply to a question given last September I find the total grant to European boarding houses came to Rs. 2,28,000 and the number of inmates in the boarding houses is 3,000, that is, at the rate of Rs. 75 per orphan per annum, whereas in the case of Indian orphans it comes to only Rs. 10 per year per orphan. The hon. Dr. Subbarayan, in reply to a question the other day, told this House that even this Rs. 10 a year was not applied for. May I ask him if any manager of an orphanage would ask for a pittance of Rs. 10 a year per orphan for meeting the expenditure which from enquiries made must amount at least to Rs. 5 per month per orphan? I do not think an Indian orphan can be supported on less than that sum. In the case of an European orphan, Rs. 10 or 12 a month may be required.

" This grant of Rs. 75 per annum per orphan is not unreasonable because the authorities concerned are spending about Rs. 120 per annum on each orphan. I do not therefore object to it at all. My question, however, is this : Why should not the Government make a reasonable grant to the Indian boarding houses? The Indian boarding houses are supposed to be maintained with this small sum of Rs. 45,000. The grant for the purpose last year was Rs. 30,000 and I am glad they have increased it this year by Rs. 15,000. I take it that the Government have commuted that the number of orphans looked after by the Indians can be maintained with this Rs. 45,000. I object only to the differentiation made between the Indian boarding houses and European boarding houses on an unfair basis. I want to know on what footing this differentiation is made and this indifference and apathy is shown to the needs of Indians. I request the hon. the Minister for Education to apply for more grants for the purpose from the hon. the Finance Member. I am sure that in that case the hon. the Finance Member will consider the desirability of making a reasonable grant to Indian boarding houses as compared with European boarding houses. As I said, I am not opposing this demand. I only appeal for justice to Indian boarding houses. Sir, these are days in which a number of depressed classes missions are maintaining boarding houses for the depressed classes for Hindu girls and widows. There are also boarding houses for Muhammadans. These will be multiplying in course of time. My friends among the Hindu depressed classes missions have assured me that if the Government is disposed to make increased grants they would find hundreds of children of the depressed classes for admission into the boarding houses. The same is the case among Muhammadans and among the Indian Christians, etc."

3-16
p.m.

* The hon. Mr. T. E. MOIR :—" Mr. President, I regret that it is not in my power to give the hon. Member from South Kanara very full information on this question. I understand that what he is concerned with is not that these

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grants are made to schools under the European control but that comparatively a small amount only is budgeted for in the case of other boarding institutions. Now, these institutions are not under my direct charge, and all I know about them is that a few years ago a certain number of boarding institutions for Indian orphans in the country being unable to manage by private subscriptions and benefactions alone, applied to the Government for grant. And, as the hon. Member is aware, grants are now provided in the budget. I can only assure him that the amount for which the department concerned asked has been provided. I understand that it is the amount which the Director of Public Instruction regards as sufficient to meet all claims from such institutions that are likely to be put forward in the coming year. (Mr. J. A. Saldanha : 'At the rate of Rs. 10 per orphan per annum?') That is an administrative point with which I am afraid I cannot claim acquaintance. All I know as the Finance Member is that this is the sum which has been asked for and that it has been provided in the budget. I do not know how many of these institutions there are or how many children are enrolled in them. I can only say as far as I am concerned that any demand which my hon. Colleague the Minister puts forward under this head will always receive my most sympathetic consideration. I have, as I have said, provided in the budget the amount actually demanded for the coming year."

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—"Is Mr. Saldanha pressing his motion?"

MR. J. A. SALDANHA :—"I would like the Education Minister also say something on the subject."

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—"The hon. Member has no right to demand a speech from any Member he likes." (Laughter.)

MR. J. A. SALDANHA :—"I think my motion may be put to the vote."

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—"I think the House is ready for the question. The question is to reduce the allotment of Rs. 5,98,700 for grants to non-Government secondary schools—European by Rs. 100."

The motion was put and lost.

The question that Government be granted a sum not exceeding Rs. 7.02 lakhs under "Demand XVIII—Education—Reserved" for the year 1927-28 was put and carried and the grant was made.

DEMAND XIX—EDUCATION—TRANSFERRED.

* The hon. Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN :—"Sir, on the recommendation of His Excellency the Governor I move

'that Government be granted a sum not exceeding Rs. 157.90 lakhs under Demand XIX—Education (Transferred).'"

* Mr. S. SATYAMURTI :—"Mr. President, Sir, I rise to move

'to reduce the allotment of Rs. 4,02,900 for grants to Universities by Rs. 100' (to discuss the question of the amendment of the Madras University Act).

"As I may have an opportunity to discuss my Bill, I shall confine myself in the few remarks which I propose to make to-day to those parts of the Madras University Act with which I have not dealt in my Bill, Mr. President, the

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history of the Madras University Act is the history of having a doctor to attend on a child almost from the moment of its birth. It has been an ailing child, and although the child has not yet improved in health, I am glad to see a change of doctors attending on it. I hope the change of doctors will mean better nourishment, better care and better treatment with the result that the Madras University may cease to be the anæmic thing that it is to-day and become a healthy, vigorous and robust child.

“The preamble to the Act started with the pompous object of providing for a teaching and residential university in Madras. But it also wanted to retain the affiliating functions of the Madras University throughout the province. Thank God, the Andhra University Act has been passed and to that extent the Madras University area has been restricted. But still, Sir, there are two competing ambitions in this Madras University Act: one to create a residential and teaching university, and the other to develop the affiliating functions of this university. My hon. Friend the Minister for Education must know, if he has profited as I believe he has by his stay abroad in English universities, that it is impossible to reconcile these two ideals. I can understand the State spending its resources on developing a first-class teaching and residential university in Madras. I can understand in the transitional stage the Government having a federal affiliating university. But I cannot understand this ambition to reconcile the mufassal feeling with the Madras feeling which was the characteristic and the dominant feature of this Bill during its discussion. Somehow the Bill was passed with a sop to Cerberus here and a sop to Cerberus there: if it is Madras we shall concentrate all the resources here, and if it is the mufassal we shall develop affiliating universities. In Madras, Mr. President, I can say without fear of contradiction, that the passing of the Act has made no difference whatever in the equipment and in the teaching provided in the colleges which are called constituent colleges. Except a slight development of inter-collegiate teaching which used to exist even before the University Act was passed, the colleges have not pooled their resources, and no inducements have been held out to the colleges to do so.

“I will give one example. The Government have given a large grant for laboratories to the Women's Christian College. There is a suitable building already in existence, and yet they are going to spend more money on laboratories in the Queen Mary's College. That is the kind of development of buildings that is going on under the very nose of my hon. Friend the Minister for Education.

“My hon. Friend the Education Minister, in a moment of what I thought inspiration, said that he was against the mere multiplication of universities and discouraged the formation of a Tamil University.

“But soon cold feet overtook him and he went about apologising and explaining. I wish he had stuck to his statement that if it is merely a case of multiplying the existing universities he would be adding to the tragedy of middle-class unemployment.”

3-30
p.m.

The hon. the PRESIDENT:—“Order, order. Under this motion the hon. Member wants to discuss the amendment of the Madras University Act. He now talks about the federal type of university, the multiplicity of universities, and so on. I want to know how this is in order.”

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* Mr. S. SATYAMURTI :—“ They are all provided for in this Act : the creation of new universities, university centres, continuation of the affiliating functions of this university, a residential and teaching university all are in this *magnum opus*. That is why I am referring to these functions with a view to elicit a statement from the hon. the Minister for Education, if he has had time to learn, mark and inwardly digest the educational problem of university development, in order to know whither we are going to march forward.

“ There is a provision in this Act for the Governor-General to be the visitor of this university. It has been put in here in imitation of some University Acts of Northern India. Certainly so far as this university is concerned, it is impracticable and certainly humiliating, because it confers most extraordinary powers on the Governor-General as visitor of this university.

“ I wish to draw attention to three important sections in this Act. Section 57 says : ‘ Notwithstanding anything contained in section 36, at any time after the passing of this Act if the Local Government is satisfied that other adequate arrangements have been made for the supervision and control of institutions preparing candidates for the entrance examination to the university, the Local Government may by notification direct that the said university shall cease to exercise any control over the recognition of such institutions and from the date of such notification the university shall cease to exercise such control.’

“ I have tried to construe the section ; others have tried to do the same and so far all the attempts have failed. Does this section refer to high schools or intermediate colleges ? It only refers to institutions preparing for entrance tests. The entrance test is only the school final or the matriculation. Does it therefore mean that it refers to schools ? If it refers to high schools, it is non-sense. Government cannot mean by this that the university is exercising control over them now. If it means the intermediate colleges, then different language should have been used. I want to know whether the hon. Minister intends to carry out the section and if so, in what sense.

“ Section 44 deals with the question of funds for the university. Contributions are made by the Government for certain purposes. I want on principle that the Government grant should be a block grant as it is the case in Calcutta, and as grants to cultural and scientific associations should be. The Finance Secretary may not like it. I think grants to universities should be block grants, and they ought not to lapse within twelve months. No university can make any real development whatever if every time March comes round, our grants lapse. I may remind my hon. Friend that his predecessor in office provided for a grant of 3½ lakhs to the Madras University just after the Act was passed. Unfortunately, as the schemes were not ready, the grants lapsed to the Government. This section should be so amended so that grants to university should be block grants.

“ Only one more section I wish to draw the attention of the hon. Minister to and I am done. Section 45 reads : ‘ The Local Government may at any time after the passing of this Act transfer to the university the control and management of any of its institutions on such terms and conditions as it may deem proper. In the case of such transfer, the Local Government shall make a contribution annually of a sum equivalent to the average annual net

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expenditure from Provincial funds on the institution during the three years immediately preceding the year of transfer.' This raises a fundamental question of great importance to the future of higher education in this Presidency. My esteemed friend the distinguished Vice-Chancellor of the Andhra University is raising this matter in another connexion. I expect him to do so very soon. I am raising it here, in order to elicit a statement of policy if he has time to elaborate one, whether hereafter higher education is going to be entrusted in the hands of the university. A good deal can be said in favour of it. Instead of the Government managing higher education through its department, a good deal can be said in favour of transferring the Law College, the Medical College, the Engineering College, the Presidency College and the Queen Mary's College and all the various Government colleges to the management of the university as such and Government giving an yearly grant to the university based on the average expenditure on these institutions for the past three years. By this arrangement the quality of the education will considerably improve. Under the present arrangement, very often square men are put in round holes; inspectors are transferred as professors, and professors as deputy inspectors, and so on. Exigencies of service always claim predominant attention at the hands of the Government, but not the requirements of the service for which they are appointed. These are the main features on which I should like to have some information from the hon. Minister, the lines on which he proposes to amend the Madras University Act. Hence this motion."

* The hon. Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN :—" Mr. President, Sir, I am glad my hon. Friend the learned Member for the University has given me an opportunity of speaking on the points he has raised in the debate. As he himself said, he is introducing a Bill himself to amend the University Act. The Bill will probably come before the Council next Monday or Tuesday. He is quite right in saying that the intention of the Madras University Act was to have a teaching and residential university in the city of Madras. But it is not possible to reach that ideal till we have developed another university in the Tamil area like the Andhra University itself. It is only then that the affiliating function of the Madras University can be abandoned. My hon. Friend must recognize that we have gone on with this affiliating function for a long time and it is not possible by one stroke of the pen, however much my hon. Friend my predecessor in office might have desired, to abolish the affiliating function altogether. Considering this question, my hon. Friend had no other alternative but to pass the Bill in the form in which he passed it. No doubt my hon. Friend is quite right in taking him to task about the clause that was put in about the new universities and the central institutions, etc. The working of the Act has now proved beyond doubt that it is not possible to work both the schemes together, the affiliating and the constituent colleges schemes. The London University which tried that scheme has abandoned it and they have abolished what are called external examinations. My hon. Friend my predecessor in office tried a via media between the ideal of the London University and the teaching ideal. He had the same examinations for both the affiliated and the constituent colleges, whereas in the London University they had external and internal examinations. As I have already said, it is not possible to run the two concurrent systems together. As long as there are no other affiliating universities except the Madras University—the Andhra University was started with different ideals—my hon. Friend will

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concede that it is not possible to give up the affiliating function altogether. I do not think he intends that from what I have seen of his Bill.

“The hon. Member then talked about the multiplication of universities and said that I got cold feet. I am afraid my hon. Friend is quite wrong in that. I do say now that if the Tamil University Committee produces a report recommending another affiliating type of university, I shall have the courage to say that I shall have to say an emphatic no to their proposal. Because I do not think there is need for such a type of university in the Tamil area as long as the Madras University maintains its affiliating function.

“My hon. Friend referred to section 37. I really do not know what the intention of my hon. Friend Sir Patro was in that section. But I gather from the discussion on the Bill that the intention was that at some future time the intermediate colleges should take up the preparation of the students for the entrance examination. I believe that was at the back of his mind. I think he was correct in introducing that section in the Act. But the stage for introducing that system would come when the university authorities themselves have found out methods and means by which the entrance stage of the university will be the intermediate stage and not the stage of the school final as is the case now.

“As regards the grants to the university being block grants, I for one when I was a private member felt that this system ought to be adopted in the matter of university education. Because I do not think that it is possible for universities to have schemes ready in order to spend the grants. My hon. Friend challenged me whether I considered that matter now. I am afraid I must frankly admit that since so many things engage my attention now at the same time I have not been able to consider the matter. My own personal opinion is that the system of block grants will really contribute to the progress of university education.

“My hon. Friend referred to section 45 dealing with the transfer of Government colleges to the control of the university. Evidently the intention of my hon. Friend my predecessor in office was to transfer such institutions to the university when the university made definite proposals on this point. As far as I can see I do not think that any definite proposals to that effect were considered either by the Senate or the Syndicate. When the university makes any proposals to that effect it will be time for me to consider them.”

Mr. S. SATYAMURTI :—“I do not press the motion.”

The motion was, by leave of the House, withdrawn.

* Mr. S. ARPUDASWAMI UDAYAR :—“Mr. President, I move that

‘the allotment of Rs. 4,02,900 for grants to Universities be reduced by Rs. 100.’

“In view of the amending Bill which is going to be brought before the Council I shall be satisfied with requesting the hon. Minister to consider the desirability of making three amendments to the Act.”

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—“I am afraid the hon. Member ought to have spoken on the previous amendment if his object is to amend the Act.”

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* Mr. S. ARPUDASWAMI UDAYAR :—" I have specified the points in which the Act is to be amended."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" It will be more to the convenience of the House if the same subject matter is discussed on one and the same motion. We have disposed of the matter before. Technically, the hon. Member will not be prevented by Standing Order 30 from moving this motion. But it would be to the convenience of the House if similar subjects are disposed of by one and the same amendment."

* Mr. S. ARPUDASWAMI UDAYAR :—" At the time of passing of the Madras University Act it was felt that the objects of university education would be best promoted by enlisting the sympathy of local bodies, and of certain classes of individuals who are in a position by munificent donations to help to diffuse far and wide the blessings of university education."

" That was the reason why large unwieldy university bodies came into existence. I hope that in any amending Bill which the hon. the Minister may have in view, he would consider the desirability of restricting and limiting the number or size of these university bodies. It would be better to have one body, the Senate going into committees or to have two bodies smaller and more manageable instead of three. 3-45 p.m.

" Secondly, Sir, in the Act we have a clause which defines a university centre. But there are no statutory provisions for investing the university centres with powers. No provision exists for authorizing the teaching by university centre of certain courses for which no provision has been made; no provision by the parent university investing them with autonomous powers for conducting their own examinations under instructions from, or subject to some general supervision of, the parent university or for introducing higher and specialised courses to meet local needs and requirements. When the amending Bill comes up I hope that something definite will be laid down in regard to these matters.

" Speaking of the functions of each university centre, I may meet the point raised by my hon. Friend the Member for the University, who deprecated the idea of multiplication of universities. In all humility I submit to you, Sir, how very smoothly the whole system will surely work, the system of starting with one or two university centres. That would be the best means of testing whether there was a real demand for any university in any one particular place, whether there were resources at the command of educational agencies in certain given localities, and granting that there were funds at their disposal, whether they were willing to make experiments, whether they were capable of improving the staff, the laboratories and the necessary kinds of equipment for carrying on higher research. When they develop and when they show that they are in a position to blossom even into a future university, surely this transition, this change will be made smoothly, most harmoniously and most naturally. So, in the interests of higher education, in the interests of university education, I would request the hon. the Minister for Education to introduce certain clauses which would give statutory powers to the various university centres to develop and attain to the status and growth, potential of what, with some encouragement, can even develop into a university."

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* The hon. Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN :—“ Mr. President, Sir, there are two points which my hon. Friend Mr. Arpudaswami Udayar has raised, in the course of the speech he made. One was about the university bodies being rather unwieldy. I believe that the Bill of my hon. Friend, the Member for the University, provides for this purpose. There is a special provision the object of which is to reduce the number of university bodies. But the mufassal colleges will receive their adequate representation on the Academic Council. So there will be no distinction made in that sense between the colleges in the mufassal and the colleges in the city of Madras.

“ With regard to university centres which my hon. Friend talked about, I am afraid it will not be possible to have two types of ideas running in one and the same university at the same time, that is, the federal idea and the residential idea. We have to decide whether we want the Madras University to be of an affiliating type with a federal idea or a residential university with a single centre in Madras. My hon. Friend's idea evidently is to develop further the idea of centres. I think that even in the present Act there is enough provision made and enough power given to mufassal colleges to improve their status and see whether they cannot develop themselves into a university centre.”

The motion was, by leave, withdrawn.

* Mr. K. V. R. SWAMI .—“ Sir, I move.

‘ to reduce the allotment of Rs. 4,02,900 for grants to Universities by Rs. 100.’

“ My purpose in moving this token motion is to get sufficient money for the Andhra University. I think I am just doing what the Chief Minister did at the time of the last budget. He was putting questions to elicit information from the then Minister in charge of Education, Sir A. P. Patro, whether sufficient money was provided for the Andhra University. The provision in the present budget does not improve matters in any way. In the last budget a sum of Rs. 1 lakh was provided for the Andhra University. This time only a sum of Rs. 1,15,000 is provided for. I was looking for this figure in the budget estimate. For some time I could not find the figure because there is no heading as the Andhra University. On further examination I found out under miscellaneous head—Madras University, that some money was provided for the Madras University and some note was made that a grant of Rs. 1,15,000 was given to the Andhra University. That is the place which the Andhra University occupies in the hands of the Chief Minister at present. The Andhras were very keen upon having a separate university for themselves with the hopes and aspirations that they would get sufficient money to develop their own university. But the money provided in the last and the present budget is so small that it is not possible to make any development at all. It only serves as post office now. We have got a university office with a number of clerks who would receive letters and information and distribute them to others. They are occupying buildings which were given gratis. No grant has been given even for building purposes. Perhaps I may be told that the estimates, plans and specifications are not yet ready. If a sufficient provision is made in the current year's budget, something can be done.

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[Mr. K. V. R. Swami]

"Another matter I want to bring to the notice of the hon. the Chief Minister is that the Government should give up the idea of still running the arts colleges under their management. They must transfer all these colleges to the management of the Andhra University so that the university may have sufficient control over them and develop them according to their lights. All the colleges which can be improved and developed are kept under the management of the Government and the university is left simply as an examining body. The present state of things do not in any way improve matters and if sufficient funds are not granted, it is not possible for the university to develop.

"Perhaps my hon. Friend the Chief Minister has still got a doubt whether the headquarters would be at Bezwada or some other place because different ideas have been put forward, and because that matter has not been settled. Last time, Bezwada was accidentally fixed as the headquarters. It was rather an accident than a determined desire. The first idea was to fix the headquarters at some other place. The usual competition went on and Bezwada was pitched upon finally. Perhaps the hon. the Chief Minister thinks that before that question is settled, there is no good making more provision for the university. I presume that this must be the reason because no other reason is given why sufficient provision is not made for the Andhra University. With these words, I commend the motion for the acceptance of the House."

* Mr. B. RAMACHANDRA REDDI :—"Mr. President, Sir, in March 1926 when the hon. the Minister was a private Member and when he was speaking at the time of the general discussion of the budget, he gave expression to this view, viz., that the then Minister was patting the Andhras on the back by giving them an university. I now find, whether that is true or not, that the present Minister is smiting the Andhras on the face by not making sufficient provision for the Andhra University. If my information is correct, it seems that schemes costing Rs. 13 or 14 lakhs were discussed and got ready for the approval of the hon. the Minister. But unfortunately, they have not yet seen the light of day. Everybody must agree that the Andhradesa is a country with large possibilities. As it is, expansion of studies, and research, engineering developments and industrial avocations find a great deal of encouragement in the Andhradesa. If the present university is not equipped with the necessary materials, I am afraid that the University Act would be a dead letter. Though the hon. the Minister said this morning that he has not yet a fixed policy, I hope that he would decide upon a policy very soon and that he would first improve the Andhra University. I am told that the formation of a library and the construction of a Senate House in Bezwada have been thought of, that the existing Arts Colleges and the Research Section in Rajahmundry have been thought of, and several other things connected with the several centres, decided upon by this House, have been thought of, in the schemes that have been discussed. We do not know why they have been thrown out and whether the hon. the Minister has found them all useless. I hope I will be able to hear from him his reasons now.

"The question of the headquarters of the university was raised. I think that it is a secondary matter. It is the university centres that have to be thought of and that have to be developed."

The hon. Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN :—"I would ask the hon. Member to speak a little louder. I did not hear anything of what he said."

[28rd March 1927]

Mr. B. RAMACHANDRA REDDI :—" Does the hon. Member want me to repeat what I said ? "

The hon. Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN :—" The hon. Member has been saying something about ' useless ' . "

Mr. B. RAMACHANDRA REDDI :—" I always say something useful, Sir.

4 p.m. " I was saying, Sir, that the question of headquarters is of secondary importance

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" If the hon. Member has no objection, he may come to the front bench. "

* Mr. B. RAMACHANDRA REDDI :—" By the time I come, Sir, I am afraid I will lose two minutes. (Laughter.)

" I was saying, Sir, that the question of headquarters is of secondary importance. It is the university centres that have to be developed at this stage. I hope a better provision than the one that was contemplated before the hon. the Minister came to take charge of the portfolio in his hands, will be favourably considered and made, considering at the same time the vast possibilities of the Andhradesa, I hope, Sir, the hon. the Minister will not place the Andhradesa in great disappointment, because the Andhras feel that whatever might be the defects of the Act, the Andhra University is the forerunner of the Andhra province. I trust that the Minister will not put a stop at this stage to that feeling, and I sincerely wish that he will make a better provision and make an announcement of the provision that he is going to make to this House shortly. "

* Mr. P. C. VENKATAPATI RAJU :—" Mr. President, Sir, it was found expedient more than a year ago by the then Government to constitute a university for the Telugu districts. It was in answer to an insistent demand that was being made time after time by the people of the Andhra country. The demand was not for the creation of another examining and affiliating body like the Madras University and it was known to the Government that such a sort of university was not wanted. Taking these things into consideration, the then Government, even though said to be reactionary, was progressive with regard to their programme in respect of the Andhra educational needs, and brought in and carried the Andhra University Act. If we refer to some of the provisions made in that Act, Sir, we find what the intentions of the gentlemen who framed that Act were with regard to this university. Among the various functions allotted to the university, the first function was, under sub-section (1) of section 4, ' to provide for instruction in such branches of learning as may be considered suitable and to make provision for research and for the advancement and dissemination of knowledge ' . That was the first function allotted to the Andhra University. Then, under sub-section (6) of section 4, the university has : ' to institute Professorships, Readerships, Lecturerships and any other teaching posts required by the university ' . Again, Sir, under sub-section (8) of the same section, it has ' to maintain colleges and hostels ' . Also, under sub-section (12) of the same section, the Andhra University is given other functions ' to institute and provide funds for the maintenance of a Publication Bureau, an Employment Bureau, Students' Unions and University Extension Boards ' . It was pointed out when the Bill was pushed through, both in the Select Committee and in this House, that unless ample funds were provided for the

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university, unless definite recurring grants were given to the university, these functions could not be carried out. It was however found difficult or impossible to introduce some provisions, so as to ensure a definite grant to the university, since the changes required the Government of India's sanction. Again, Sir, under section 38, it was contemplated that all the educational institutions in the Andhra University area ought to be transferred to the university and that funds should be provided for carrying on those institutions. It was under section 36 (1) that the university was intended to 'establish under its direct control and management such scientific and technical colleges as may be agreed upon from time to time between the university and the Government'. After the university has been established, after all the constituent bodies of the university have been found to be properly working, after the Ministry had sufficient time to carry out the intentions and to provide adequate grants in this year's budget, we are surprised to find, Sir, that no provision is made for the university to carry out any of its functions. The university has been constituted by the Government and has been assigned all these functions which I have mentioned just now ; but the Government have not seen their way to provide the necessary funds and they want to starve the very university which they were instrumental in creating.

"Now, Sir, with reference to the question of the transfer of institutions referred to in connexion with the Madras University, the hon. the Minister for Education was telling us that such a transfer would be considered when definite proposals were made by the university. I wonder what definite proposals he wants to be made. The section clearly says that institutions may be transferred by the Government and that when such a transfer is made, such and such a provision for the maintenance and continuance of the institutions shall be made. Of course, if the Government are willing, and if they send up a proposal to the university and fix up the conditions that should be agreed upon between the university and the Government, the university may submit their views on the matter. I maintain that the initiative ought to come from the Government who created the university and laid down the functions it should discharge. The Government ought to have formulated their own proposals and asked the Andhra University as to what their views were in the matter.

"Sir, I am surprised to find that even in the matter of educational institutions in the Andhra area, the hon. the Minister for Education is ignoring the university in dealing with his institutions in the university area. He ought to have found out the intention of the Andhra University with regard to the development of its research and honours courses, on its teaching side, before he launches upon any scheme, at its back, without its knowledge—as he seems to have said—at the expert guidance of one of his departmental heads. If the Government cannot have sufficient confidence in an expert body created by them mainly to deal with higher education, I ask in whom can they rely. Having created such a body, it is their duty to see that all their activities with reference to higher and technical education are carried through that body and through that body alone. Even the expert adviser is a member of all the constituent bodies of the Andhra University. He will have his say there and the university will have an opportunity of knowing the views of Government's expert adviser ; but when once a special body is constituted, it is the duty of the Government to utilize it for the development of all collegiate and higher education and for organizing the local institution

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which it was contemplated to organize, at the time of the passing of the Act. The much-maligned Justice party which was said to be reactionary, was not reactionary in this matter, and they gave a progressive University Act to the Andhra country, and it is now left to the Nationalist Ministry either to carry out the proposals chalked out by them or to go back upon their own ideas of nationalism and progressive policy, and to follow the most reactionary policy of putting a stop to the cultural advancement of the Andhra country disregarding the unanimous wishes of the Andhra people throughout the Andhradesa."

* The ZAMINDAR OF GOLLAPALLI :—"Mr. President, Sir, the Andhra University has been located at Bezwada and it has been working for about a year. Its offices have been located in rented buildings. The Senate and Syndicate are sitting in the Museum Hall which has a very insufficient accommodation. In this year's budget, a sum of Rs. 1,15,000 has been allotted to this university, which is very inadequate. I understand that there is no idea of changing the headquarters which is quite unnecessary. The Senate House and the residential quarters of the staff of the Andhra University are to be constructed at Bezwada. The colleges at the three centres, namely, Vizagapatam, Rajahmundry and Anantapur, are to be extended and repaired, to make them suitable to satisfy the provisions of the Act. So, for all these expenses, I urge that a sum of at least six lakhs may be allotted as building grants to the university. I support the motion before the House."

The KUMARA RAJA OF VENKATAGIRI :—"Mr. President, Sir, let me join the chorus of expression of dissatisfaction at the financial treatment meted out to the Andhra University which is still in its infant stage. It is unnecessary, Sir, for me to point out that any institution in its early stages of development, requires fostering care and financial nourishment from the Government, and that the grant allotted to the Andhra University in the budget is inadequate and will be only just sufficient to keep the institution in running order, without any balance for extending its sphere of usefulness or for intensifying the academic value of its work even within its present limited sphere. Any surplus, Sir, left over after meeting dire necessities, may not be enough even to touch the fringe of the university extension scheme which figures rightly and prominently in the programme of works formulated by my friend, the leading educationist, Mr. C. R. Reddi of Andhradesa. Among the most important schemes that have been submitted to the Government, there is one for housing the university; and we cannot afford to allow the university to remain cramped and crowded in that small Museum Hall which is more in the nature of a catacomb than an edifice where any university can be located. Well, Sir, I want the Government to give immediate effect to the various schemes submitted to them by the Andhra University without any further delay. Before resuming my seat, let me just avail myself of this opportunity to remind my hon. Friend the Chief Minister of what he said just a year back during the budget discussion. He said that the Government should provide adequate funds when this institution came into existence, so that it might not be strangled at its birth. Sir, strangling is better than starving, and I am really surprised that the motherly solicitude which has been displayed by my friend just a year back has suddenly turned into a step-motherly affection. I hope, Sir, that my hon. Friend the Chief Minister will disabuse the Andhras of this impression by extending a liberal patronage and by providing greater funds for this infant university."

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* Mr. P. ANJANEYULU :—"I am sure if the hon. Minister for Education had known the intense feeling that is in the minds of all Andhras about the Andhra University, let alone the Andhra province—I am perfectly sure he would have not been satisfied with giving the Andhra University this small sum. This 1·15 lakhs and odd is hardly sufficient to meet what may be called the working expenses, that is, the salary, the pay of the establishment and so forth. Not a pie is to be spent on any of those activities which the Act contemplates. The Act is a child of this very House. And at the discussion of the Bill in its different stages my hon. Friend took very enthusiastic interest in giving it a proper shape. That being so, I wonder whether he has been enchanted after going to the benches there, and has been made to forget many of the things which he was once keen about. I may also mention for the information of the hon. the Chief Minister and for such other Members who might not have been informed about it, that the keenness and the interest of the Andhras was not merely vocal. The activities of the Vice-Chancellor Mr. C. R. Reddi in the Andhradesa to collect funds and the response of the landed aristocracy, to which my hon. Friend, the Kumara Raja of Venkatagiri, belongs—I hope if he has not already contributed enough, he would do so hereafter—the response of the landed aristocracy in Andhradesa in thousands of rupees shows the keen interest they have been taking in the Andhra University.

4-15
p.m.

* "As far as the location and centre is concerned, it is a matter of domestic affair. I may wish to have it in my district, Guntur, my other friends may wish to have it in the Ceded districts and others may want to have it at Rajahmundry and some other friends may like to have it at Vizagapatam to which my hon. Friend Sir A. P. Patro belongs. Whatever that may be, it is only a small matter which can very easily be settled in a domestic conference.

"Apart from that, as far as I can understand, even in the Select Committee as well as in this House, Bezwada was naturally made the official headquarter being a neutral place."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—"The question is not the centre, but the funds for the Andhra University."

Mr. P. ANJANEYULU :—"Bezwada being the place now settled as official quarters, it was considered that enough funds would be provided for the construction of a Senate House at once. Now it is the charity of the municipality of Bezwada that has given some little House for the use of the senators. I hope and trust that enough funds will soon be made available to further the cause of this university. I will not labour the point. But I am perfectly sure that the hon. the Chief Minister who himself took active part in the discussions during the Andhra University Bill in all its stages would remember and I will remind him also, that though he is there with full of responsibility to meet out funds towards various interests and possibly clashing interests too, he would help this university and I may be permitted to quote in this connexion the words of the poet :

"Take her up tenderly
Lift her with care,
Fashioned so slenderly,
Young and so fair."

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Mr. T. C. SRINIVASA AYYANGAR :—“I wish to associate myself with the sentiments expressed by my friends of the Andhradesa. Nearly six years ago when a resolution was submitted to the House recommending to Government the early establishment of an Andhra University, I was one of those Tamilians then in this House who heartily supported the motion. I am glad that the recommendation then made has come to pass and it is equally a great satisfaction that one of the most distinguished educationists, who has not merely received culture in the eastern and western seats of learning, but who had also had considerable administrative experience, has been appointed as the Vice-Chancellor of the University. Now, Sir, the question is how to make use of this opportunity. What are we going to do with the Andhra University? The Andhra University is an established fact and I wish that ample funds are placed at its disposal, so that it may fulfil its functions and start on a prosperous career. It is equally a great necessity. Now, Sir, the university has got another appendage and it has got an expert body and if it is to function it must have ample funds. For this purpose, it has an association of eminently learned men in whose hands must be handed over all the educational institutions, so that they do their work properly, Government retaining such control to see that the funds are properly applied and the objects carried out.

“Now, Sir, in an infant institution like this university, a grant of a lakh and odd is a trifling amount. I do not say that the Government will not consider the matter. It is up to my Andhra friends to come up through their Vice-Chancellor and to place before Government considered proposals which will be accepted by the department. In this matter there can be and there is no difference of opinion, so that the Chief Minister can apply his large heart and extend his munificence with a liberal hand. Therefore I commend this proposition for the kind consideration of the Chief Minister. Although under the rules of this House, this is put as a token motion, I hope my hon. Friends will have a satisfactory reply from the Chief Minister, so that by their co-operation and useful advice the thing may be advanced and further funds obtained in due time.”

Mr. A. KALESWARA RAO :—“Mr. President, Sir, when the Andhra University was established by the late Ministry, it was welcomed by the whole Andhradesa without any difference of political opinion and particularly the appointment of a brilliant educationist Mr. C. R. Reddi as the Vice-Chancellor gave complete satisfaction to the Andhra country. But one great defect existing then which was pointed out by everybody, was non-provision of sufficient funds in the budget for 1926-27; and during last year, 1926, plans and estimates were prepared for the building of a suitable Senate House and a suitable bungalow for the residence of the Vice-Chancellor at Bezwada—the headquarters of the Andhra University and we also expected that when His Excellency the Governor visited Bezwada as Chancellor, the foundation stone would be laid for the Senate House. But, somehow, for reasons known to the Ministers themselves—possibly the selection of the site was made a pawn in political chess during the last year's election, or it might not be—nothing was done in the matter of giving a local habitation to the Andhra University. It now lives in a house given by the merciful Public Works Department after prolonged correspondence.

“The Andhra University though at the beginning thought of being a residential university, under the peculiar circumstances of the country—the

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[Mr. A. Kaleswara Rao]

whole Andhra country took a lot of interest in the proceedings of the Bill—it became both an affiliating and a residential university. Several first-grade and second-grade colleges all came under its jurisdiction. The Andhras wanted a separate university and a separate jurisdiction for the Andhra University as a forerunner, as pointed out by one of my friends, to the Andhra province. The Andhra also wanted education through the medium of vernacular and also administration through the medium of vernaculars. Those were the two important ideas which were at the bottom of the whole Andhra movement and therefore a separate university with possibilities of giving instruction up to the highest classes in the vernacular of the province, Telugu, and these ideas attracted the Andhra country and after a prolonged agitation then, the three centres were fixed—Vizagapatam in the north, Paschama Andhra, Anantapur and Rajahmundry. The ancient college on the banks of the Gautami at Rajahmundry was allowed to remain there and Rajahmundry became the centre and Bezwada on the banks of the Kistna which is the natural and geographical centre of Andhradesa, with its railway and other communications with its picturesqueness and other facilities, was made the headquarters of the university."

Mr. V. CH. JOHN :—"Mr. President, Sir, I rise to endorse what has been said in favour of the motion. One thing that has been uppermost in the minds of most of the Telugus for some years is this Andhra University question and after years of agitation this University Bill was passed but nothing more has been done even after passing the Bill. Last year a meagre provision was made in the budget and this year we expected that a very large provision would be made for it, but we are disappointed. I am sure the hon. Minister for Education would find his way to provide ample funds for this new university. The Andhra University, like all other organizations, requires money and without money nothing can function and the Andhra University is no exception to it.

"As to the location of the university, there is a divergence of opinion: people from Guntur would say that there is a first-grade college there and therefore the Andhra University ought to be located there; people from Bezwada speak for Bezwada, but wherever the Andhra University is located, funds are necessary and must be provided for in this budget. We cannot wait long, we have already waited sufficiently long and therefore, the Andhra University location apart, we ask for ample provision being made in this budget and that right now."

* The hon. Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN :—"Mr. President, I listened with great interest to the speeches made by my friends from all sides of the House. Mr. Ramachandra Reddi was quite right in saying that I did raise the question of an adequate provision for the Andhra University last year when the budget was presented. I admit, Sir, that the provision made for the Andhra University in this budget is not adequate, but we could not provide more than this, as long as there is no system of block grants introduced in the statute itself and it is not my fault, because I am here to-day. It is impossible to make provision for any amount for such grants because unless proposals and schemes are ready for being put forward before the Finance Committee, it is very hard to get any funds at all for such purposes. But Rs. 1,15,000 was the expenditure that was thought necessary by the Vice-Chancellor himself and what was asked for has been put in the budget. With regard to the buildings, the

[Dr. P. Subbarayan]

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Andhra University Senate House and the Vice-Chancellor's quarters, the estimates are under consideration by the Superintending Engineer and they did not reach the Government when the budget was under preparation. But now that we have got some money owing to the remission of the provincial contribution, I hope it will be possible, if schemes are ready and are of such a nature as would go really to develop the Andhra University, to grant an adequate amount to the Andhra University. When the University Act was introduced, I remember my hon. Friend, the then Minister for Education, mentioned that he expected there would be large and munificent donations for the Andhra University from the university area which will go to provide that university with adequate funds. From what I have seen of the grants that have been made to this university, in spite of Mr. Anjaneyulu's statement that munificent grants had been made, I am yet to see such grants. I hope that my young friends like the Kumara Raja of Venkatagiri who are after all the princes of the Andhra country will see to it that he and his brethren make large grants to the university so that Andhra culture and Andhra history may have a bright future. I do not know what my hon. Friend means by shouting outside the House, but what I may say is that even from inside the House I am willing to give adequate grants to the Andhra University if the schemes are ready.

“With regard to the handing over of the Government colleges for which Mr. Venkatapati Raju pleaded with such eloquence, as I said with regard to the Madras University also, I do not think that the initiative for such things ought to come from the Government. As my hon. Friend the learned Member for the University himself says, I think proposals for such purposes ought to come from the Andhra University authorities themselves. But I can tell my hon. Friend this, that shortly we are going to have a Conference with the Vice-Chancellor of the Andhra University for this particular purpose and when I have his proposal, I hope it will be possible to treat the Andhra University in such a fashion as would be acceptable to all Members, so that the Andhra University authorities themselves will have control of a college and try to instil education from their own standpoint from such a college. The Zamindar of Gollapalli pleaded about the building of the Senate House, the Vice-Chancellor's quarters, etc., but I see opinions differ on that subject in this House. My hon. Friend, Mr. Venkatapati Raju, pointed out that what they want is not merely the Senate House and the Vice-Chancellor's quarters but more adequate funds for developing the University on the lines that the Syndicate and the Senate propose. What he placed first was the development of the university ideal more than the building for the Vice-Chancellor and the Senate House. As I have said before, Sir, I hope it will be possible to make an adequate grant for the Andhra University specially after meeting the Vice-Chancellor and finding out his opinion about the transfer of a Government college or about starting a college of their own at a centre where they can start it. In regard to the change of centre there was a Bill of Mr. Kaleswara Rao before the House about the making of Bezwada also a centre and when the Vice-Chancellor meets, I hope that matter will also be considered because I believe there was an opinion of the Senate of the Andhra University that Bezwada should also be made an additional centre. And I hope, if the Vice-Chancellor so wishes, it will be possible to make Bezwada also an additional centre.”

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* Mr. K. KOTI REDDI :—“ Mr. President, Sir, I do not think we are quite satisfied with the answer given by the hon. the Chief Minister, although it gave us some hope. I think if there is one thing in the development of modern Universities which points to some definite conclusions, it is this, namely, that Universities ought to devote more attention to the teaching, higher research, and the dissemination of knowledge to the masses. The second thing is that the State should recognize its obligations to support the Universities on the financial side instead of leaving them merely to depend upon private munificence. On both of these grounds I do not think the answer given by the hon. the Chief Minister is really quite satisfactory. Personally, Sir, I do not see why the Government should depend on the gifts that private persons may be able to give for the University. If it is their desire that the University should contribute something to the higher research and add to the knowledge that has already been acquired by the people, and if it is their desire that the knowledge thus acquired by industrious research by men of learning in the University be disseminated to the world at large, I do not see why the State should disown its responsibility in contributing, I say mainly, to the funds of the University. If private donations come in, so much the better. If they do not come in, it ought not to be an excuse for the Government to say ‘unless you come forward with donations, we are not prepared to give grants.’

“ Another difficulty in the way of the Government seems to be to hand over the existing Government colleges to the University. It is rather unhappy that the Government should think that they can do this work of teaching much better than the University. It would really be an unnecessary waste of time and money that the higher teaching should be in the hands of both the Government and the University. It is recognized now that the University can do this work much better than the Government as such can. I do not see why the Government should feel it rather very difficult for them to hand over the existing Government colleges to the University, for higher teaching and research. It is said that because there is not this block system of giving grants, the Minister is not in a position to provide more funds than before. I really do not believe there is any difficulty. I suppose no statute provides against it and there may be only a rule of the Finance Committee or the Government against it. But I do not think anything prevents the giving of block grants to the University.

“ Another difficulty that has been raised seems to be about the centres. It is rather unhappy—even now we feel some of us were mistaken at the time—that with the little finance that is probably available in the country at present we have not been in a position to concentrate all higher teaching at one centre. But I can say this. If the Government is really desirous of providing the University with enough funds and if the only difficulty in their way is too many centres, I for one believe that if we are assured that a big grant say of 30 or 40 lakhs would be made, we will be able to agree among ourselves to concentrate all the financial resources that the Government will be able to give us at one centre and see that the Andhra University is made a real University which can contribute to the research and add to the knowledge that already exists. And even if we are not in a position to agree among ourselves as to the various centres, I believe attempts will be made to see that unnecessary duplication of teaching does not exist in the University. I believe it will be possible to concentrate one kind of knowledge at one centre and

[Mr. K. Koti Reddi]

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another kind of knowledge at another and so on, so that we will see that as far as possible our finances are not dissipated unnecessarily. I am one of those who believe that unless the Government comes forward with a large amount, it will not be a satisfactory state of things for the development of the University."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—"The question is to reduce the allotment of Rs. 4,02,900 for grants to Universities by Rs. 100."

The motion was put and declared carried. A poll was then demanded and the House divided thus :—

Ayes.

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1. Mr. S. Arpudaswami Udayar. | 16. Mr. B. Ramachandra Reddi. |
| 2. The Zamindar of Gollapalli. | 17. " L. K. Tulasiram. |
| 3. Mr. C. V. Venkataramana Ayyangar. | 18. " K. R. Karant. |
| 4. " P. Anjaneyulu. | 19. " C. Venkatarangam Nayudu. |
| 5. " K. Koti Reddi. | 20. Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. Patro. |
| 6. " P. C. Venkatapati Razn. | 21. Diwan Bahadur M. Krishnan Nayar. |
| 7. " C. N. Muthuranga Mudaliyar. | 22. Mr. T. K. Chidambaranatha Mudaliyar. |
| 8. Abdul Hamid Khan Sahib Bahadur. | 23. Diwan Bahadur P. C. Ethirajulu Nayudu. |
| 9. Mr. K. V. R. Swami. | 24. Muhammad Khadir Mohideen Sahib Bahadur. |
| 10. " D. Narayana Raju. | 25. Diwan Bahadur S. Kumaraswami Reddiyar. |
| 11. Kumararaja of Venkatagiri. | 26. Rao Bahadur B. Muniswami Nayudu. |
| 12. Mr. C. Ramasomayajulu. | 27. Mr. K. Sarabha Reddi. |
| 13. Basheer Ahmad Sayeed Sahib Bahadur. | 28. The Zamindar of Mirzapuram. |
| 14. Mr. P. Bhaktavatsulu Nayudu. | |
| 15. " A. Kaleswara Rao. | |

Noes.

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1. The hon. Sir C. P. Ramaswami Ayyar. | 20. The Zamindar of Seithur. |
| 2. " Mr. N. E. Marjoribanks. | 21. Mr. V. Ch. John. |
| 3. " Khan Bahadur Muhammad Usman Sahib Bahadur. | 22. " Muppil Nayar. |
| 4. " Mr. T. E. Moir. | 23. " R. Nagan Gowda. |
| 5. " Diwan Bahadur R. N. Arogyaswami Mudaliyar. | 24. Subadar-Major S. A. Nanjappa Bahadur. |
| 6. " Mr. A. Ranganatha Mudaliyar. | 25. Mr. T. M. Narayanaswami Pillai. |
| 7. " Dr. P. Subbarayan. | 26. " C. R. Parthasarathi Ayyangar. |
| 8. Mr. T. R. Venkatarama Sastriyar. | 27. " Ramanath Goenka. |
| 9. " J. F. Hall. | 28. " N. Siva Raj. |
| 10. " P. L. Moore. | 29. " S. V. Gangadhara Siva. |
| 11. " Gnanavaram Pillai. | 30. " W. P. A. Soundarapandia Nadar. |
| 12. " G. T. Boag. | 31. " T. C. Srinivasa Ayyangar. |
| 13. " V. Pandrang Row. | 32. " S. Subrahmanya Mooppanar. |
| 14. " S. H. Slater. | 33. " Chavadi K. Subrahmanya Pillai. |
| 15. " C. B. Cotterell. | 34. Rao Sahib P. V. S. Sundaramurti Pillai. |
| 16. Khan Bahadur Muhammad Bazl-ul-lah Sahib Bahadur. | 35. Mr. S. V. Vanivudaiya Goundar. |
| 17. Mr. Balakrishna Shetti. | 36. " S. Venkayya. |
| 18. " J. Bheemayya. | 37. Tajudin Sahib Bahadur. |
| 19. Rao Sahib M. Hampayya. | 38. Swami A. S. Sahajanandam. |
| | 39. Rao Sahib K. Srinivasan. |
| | 40. " L. C. Guruswami. |
| | 41. Mr. V. I. Muniswami Pillai. |

Neutral.

- | | |
|-----------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| 1. Dr. (Mrs.) Muthulakshmi Reddi. | 7. Mr. C. Obi Reddi. |
| 2. Mr. M. R. Seturatnam Ayyar. | 8. " U. Ramaswami Ayyar. |
| 3. " S. Satyamurti. | 9. " R. Srinivasa Ayyangar. |
| 4. " C. S. Govindaraja Mudaliyar. | 10. " K. S. Sivasubrahmanya Ayyar. |
| 5. Dr. B. S. Mallayya. | 11. " M. A. Manikavelu Nayakar. |
| 6. Mr. J. A. Saldanha. | 12. " P. T. Rajan. |

Ayes 28, *Noes* 41, *Neutral* 12.

The motion was negatived.

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—"Mr. Mallayya, have you voted for or against the motion?"

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Dr. B. S. MALLAYYA :—" I have not voted for anything. "

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" When I called upon neutrals to stand, I thought it was their duty to stand up instead of sitting. "

Dr. B. S. MALLAYYA :—" I considered myself out, Sir. "

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" I did not hear what the hon. Member has said. "

Dr. B. S. MALLAYYA :—" I considered myself clean out, Sir. "

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" As long as hon. Members are in the House, they are requested to obey the President. When hon. Members who are neutral are requested to stand, they are expected to respect the request of the President. I am sorry that the hon. Member has not really followed the direction given by the Chair, and I expect him to respect it. "

* Dr. B. S. MALLAYYA :—" I was not aware of it, Sir. I will obey it. "

The House then adjourned to meet again at 11 a.m. the next day.

R. V. KRISHNA AYYAR,
Secretary to the Legislative Council.

[23rd March 1927]

APPENDIX I.

[Vide answer to question No. 469 asked by Diwan Bahadur P. C. Ethirajulu Nayudu at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on the 23rd March 1927, page 683 supra.]

G.O. No. 163, Public, dated 24th February 1927.

The Government sanction the creation of a temporary appointment in the Indian Civil Service of Commissioner for the Cauvery (Mettur) Irrigation Project for a period of one year from the date on which the officer appointed to the post takes charge. The pay of the appointment will be Rs. 3,000 per mensem plus overseas pay £13-6-8, if the officer is entitled to overseas pay. The Hon'ble Mr. F. B. Evans, c.s.i., I.C.S., is appointed to this post.

2. The duties of the Commissioner will include the following :—

(1) To be a liaison officer between the officers of the Public Works Department and officers of other departments such as the Forest and Public Health Departments ;

(2) To organize the 'accounts and audit' of the project in consultation with the Accountant-General and in this connexion to advise the Government whether the ordinary divisional system of accounts and audit will be suitable or some form of centralization should be adopted and where the accounts and audit office or offices should be located ;

(3) To examine the systems of purchase and custody of stores with a view to prevent the overlapping of orders and to advise the Government as to the effect of the orders regarding the purchase of stores through the Indian Stores Department ;

(4) To exercise such financial powers of the Government as may be delegated to him in respect of sanctioning estimates and reappropriations of funds ;

(5) To exercise supervision over contracts in order to make sure that they are drawn up in proper form ;

(6) To supervise the arrangements and staff for the acquisition of land both for the head works, including the tank-bed, and for the canal system and distributaries ;

(7) To organize the local administration of the head-works area in all its branches, e.g., as to the provision of a police station, a Magistrate's Court, a Sub-treasury, a Hospital, etc., and to see that the organization is brought into being as required ;

(8) To submit to Government periodical progress reports.

3. The expenditure will be debited to the head "55. Construction of Irrigation, Navigation, Embankment and Drainage Works—Special Establishment—Cauvery-Mettur Project". Further orders will be issued in the Finance Department as regards provision of funds.

(By order of the Governor in Council)

A. Y. G. CAMPBELL,
Chief Secretary.

To the Public Works and Labour Department.
 „ other Departments of the Secretariat.
 „ the Board of Revenue, Land Revenue and Settlement.
 „ the Accountant-General.
 „ the Hon'ble Mr. F. B. Evans, c.s.i., I.C.S.

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APPENDIX II

[Vide answer to question No. 474 asked by Dr. B. S. Mallayya at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on the 23rd March 1927, page 687 supra.]

Report received from the Surgeon-General regarding the working of the scheme of Honorary Physicians and Surgeons.

The following are the Honorary Medical Officers employed :—

Royapetta Hospital	Honorary Physician.
Tuberculosis Hospital	"
Hospital for Women and Children	"
General Hospital	"
Ophthalmic Hospital	Honorary Surgeon.
	Honorary Physician.
Rayapuram Hospital	" Surgeon.
	" Ophthalmic Surgeon.

The working of the scheme must be looked at from the following stand-points :—

- (a) the benefit of the Honorary Medical Officer,
- (b) the welfare of the patients,
- (c) economy in administration to Government,
- (d) assistance to the permanent medical staff, and
- (e) the efficiency of the institution to which the honorary staff is attached as a teaching hospital for medical students.

Under (a) the scheme has been a success, but not unqualified. The appointments are not popular and the number of application last year was very small, so small that no selection was possible. In the absence of competition and selection it cannot be said that the patients have materially benefited.

There has been no economy in administration to Government, as the employment of Honorary Medical Officers has not permitted any retrenchment in permanent staff. It is possible that efficiency may demand extra resident medical staff. In the Royapetta and Tuberculosis Hospitals the Honorary Medical staff has proved of real assistance. In fact it may be said that it is only in hospitals which do not function as teaching institutions the appointment of an honorary staff is of any value.

Looked at from the point of view of teaching students the scheme has been a failure. This is inevitable. The ability to teach is not acquired by seven years or longer in private practice. In England the Honorary Medical staff of the large teaching hospitals is not appointed by selection among private medical practitioners. Before a medical man can be appointed as Honorary Surgeon or Physician to the hospital he has to spend years in minor honorary appointments, such as house physician or surgeon, resident medical officer, registrar (surgical or medical), surgical or medical tutor, assistant surgeon or assistant physician.

[23rd March 1927]

APPENDIX III.

[Vide answer to question No. 480 asked by Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. Patro at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on the 23rd March 1927, page 699 supra.]

Districts.	Aided schools.			Schools under local bodies.			Unaided schools.		
	In 1921-22.	In 1925-26.	Increase.	In 1921-22.	In 1925-26.	Increase.	In 1921-22.	In 1925-26.	Increase.
Ganjam	1,223	1,491	268	347	457	120	138	68	70
Girls	18	30	12	37	65	28	5	..	..
Vizagapatam	1,225	1,713	488	385	590	205	146	200	54
Boys	17	40	23	62	80	18	3	7	4
Godavari, East.	640	838	198	466	807	343	129	64	75
Girls	40	51	11	54	93	39	3	6	3
Do. West.	..	1,023	..	..	479	..	..	2	..
Girls	..	24	..	..	76	..	..	1	..
Kistna	2,113	1,668	578*	725	523	277*	209	6	201*
Boys	46	31	9*	82	81	75*	2	3	2*
Guntur	1,925	2,252	327	404	659	255	23	..	..
Girls	49	107	58	75	110	35	..	11	11
Kurnool	953	1,003	50	411	607	196	227	134	93
Girls	13	16	3	78	92	14	..	..	..
Pellary	456	667	211	287	305	18	114	131	17
Girls	5	8	3	71	78	7	2	5	3
Anantapur	548	650	102	292	473	181	178	101	77
Girls	10	18	8	64	79	15	2	3	1
Cuddapah	1,026	1,252	226	245	290	45	..	149	149
Girls	6	8	2	51	65	14	..	4	4
Nellore	1,035	1,295	266	405	431	26	4	2	2
Girls	21	71	50	94	101	7	..	2	2
Madras	223	201	22	34	62	28	10	5	5
Girls	58	60	2	..	17	17	..	..	..
Chingleput	841	947	106	225	482	257	158	70	88
Girls	32	33	1	79	89	10	..	..	..
North Arcot	720	926	206	300	440	140	94	191	97
Girls	25	32	7	76	92	16	2	..	2
Chittoor	626	832	206	242	328	86	30	165	135
Girls	14	19	5	43	57	14	..	..	..

* For the two districts of Godavari, West, and Kistna.

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Districts.	Aided schools.			Schools under local bodies.			Unaided schools.		
	In 1921-22.	In 1925-26.	Increase.	In 1921-22.	In 1925-26.	Increase.	In 1921-22.	In 1925-26.	Increase.
South Arcot ..	1,146	1,308	162	311	641	330	280	222	58
Girls	26	24	- 2	83	100	17	..	3	3
Tanjore ..	826	1,112	286	475	612	137	119	132	13
Girls	51	53	2	62	79	17	..	2	2
Trichinopoly ..	784	902	118	337	548	211	198	144	54
Girls	38	40	2	51	67	16	..	2	1
Madura ..	552	571	19	283	513	230	65	89	24
Girls	42	51	9	63	88	25	3	3	..
Ramnad ..	722	963	241	171	291	120	93	109	16
Girls	42	48	6	61	74	13	3	3	..
Tinnevely ..	1,288	1,487	199	216	240	24	139	172	43
Girls	111	116	5	43	45	2	2	14	12
Coimbatore ..	694	777	183	358	600	242	220	190	32
Girls	31	29	- 2	56	85	30	3	..	3
Salem ..	529	600	71	382	451	69	201	193	8
Girls	18	18	..	72	89	17	..	3	..
The Nilgiris ..	43	60	17	40	67	27	3	..	..
Girls	10	11	1	1	5	4	..	..	..
Malabar ..	1,194	1,782	588	423	778	355	25	102	77
Girls	187	198	11	72	103	31	4	24	20
South Kanara.	310	398	88	297	529	232	25	33	8
Girls	9	9	..	35	45	10	1	2	1
Agency ..	252	440	188	173	156	- 17	67	31	36
Girls	2	4	2	10	10	..	..	1	1
Total ..	21,898	27,158	5,260	8,234	12,369	4,135	2,901	2,708	193
Girls	921	1,149	228	1,474	1,955	481	38	96	58

[23rd March 1927]

APPENDIX IV.

[Vide answer to question No. 488 asked by Mr. D. Narayana Raju at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on the 23rd March 1927, page 702 supra.]

Letter from the President, District Board, Kistna, R.C. No. 560/Pet.
D.B. of 25, dated 4th May 1926.

In G.O. No. 235, L. & M., dated 11th February 1928, the Government approved the proposal of the Kistna District Board to lease free of rent the ferry steamer 'Nell' to Messrs. Elluri Swami, Routala Kondala Rao of Rajahmundry and Atmuri Subba Rao and Atmuri Venkata Narasayya of Narasapur for a period of 15 years from 1st April 1913 to work on the Vasista Godavari river at Narasapur. This period expires on 31st March 1928. The first two individuals and the fourth have since surrendered their partnership to Mr. Atmuri Subba Rao and he is now the sole contractor.

2. Mr. Atmuri Subba Rao has since applied to me to renew his lease for a period of ten years or at least five years, and has made his application so early as 14th December 1924 though his contract is yet to run $2\frac{1}{2}$ years more, as the boiler of the steamer has been worn out and is to be replaced by a new one at a cost of Rs. 5,000. He has also applied for an enhancement of the rates of hire on the ground that the price of the fuel has risen considerably high, that the expenses on account of the repairs of the launch have become heavier than before owing to gradual deterioration of the machinery and the various parts of the launch.

3. The Tahsildar, Narasapur, and the Sub-Collector, Narasapur division, have reported that the contractor has worked the steamer very satisfactorily during the last 12 years and that there has been no complaint from any side against him in regard to the working of the steamer. Messrs. K. Subrahmanya Ayyar, Assistant Engineer, Public Works Department, Rao Sahib K. Yegganna Garu, a pleader of Narasapur and the President, Taluk Board, Narasapur, also speak very highly of the contractor and his efficient management.

4. When prior to 1913, the Board itself was letting the steamer every year by public auction, the amounts realized were very small and out of all proportion to the charges incurred in working the steamer the Board was thus sustaining loss year after year.

5. It is reported that when last year when the boiler inspector made the inspection of the steamer, he expressed his opinion that the existing boiler was to be replaced by a new one before long, as the present one is very much deteriorated and has become unfit for use. The new boiler may cost him Rs. 5,000 and as the contractor has thus to make a large investment, it is but fair that the extension of the lease should be allowed. The Board has, therefore, decided in its Resolution, dated 25th September 1925, to extend the lease for eight years from 1st April 1928 on condition similar to those in the existing contract.

* * * *

8. Since the District Board passed the Resolution No. 450, dated 25th September 1925, . . . several persons put in petitions to grant them a lease for the steamer offering to pay a sum of Rs. 1,000 or Rs. 1,200 per annum and promising to abide by the conditions which the present contractor Mr. Atmuri Subba Rao has accepted.

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9. The Board again discussed the matter in another meeting held in December 1925, and passed Resolution No. 684; in which it was decided that the previous resolution of September should stand. In consideration of the present contractor, M.R.Ry. Atmuri Subba Rao's popularity, his methods of efficient management, and in view of the fact that he has kept the steamer in a fair condition and has ungrudgingly executed repairs to it whenever necessary and has thus earned the good will of the Revenue, Public Works Department and Local Fund officers and of the public in general, the Board was not anxious to let the steamer go into the hands of others . . . for an apparent profit of Rs. 1,200 per annum and has therefore unanimously voted to stick up to its original Resolution of September 1925.

APPENDIX V.

[Vide answer to question No. 485 asked by Mr. Abdul Hamid Khan at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on the 23rd March 1927, page 707 supra.]

G.O. No. 1576, Revenue, dated 10th October 1924.

In G.Os. No. 870, Revenue, dated 14th March 1921, and No. 420, Public, dated 19th May 1923, the Government sanctioned certain concessions in regard to assignment of land to persons possessing military

Miscellaneous.

service The period of three years for which these concessions were sanctioned expired on 14th April 1924. The Government have reason to believe that there are a number of men eligible for the concession who, for some reason or other, have not been able to obtain any grant of land. With a view to enable such men to obtain land, the Government are pleased to extend the concessions granted in the Government Order for a further period of three years from 15th April 1924. The concessions will, however, be restricted to officers and men who were recruited before the armistice to the combatant ranks of the army.

2. In order to ensure that the benefit of the concessions is fully availed of Collectors are requested to reserve suitable lands as far as possible. Lists of eligible men who had already applied for and were not granted any land should be prepared and should be first dealt with. If an applicant has been made a reasonable offer and refused it, he should be given no further option.

3. Quarterly progress reports should be submitted by Collectors so as to reach Government not later than the 15th of the month following each quarter.

(By order of the Governor in Council)

E. W. LEIGH,
Acting Secretary to Government.

To all Departments of the Secretariat.
„ the Board of Revenue, Land Revenue and Settlement.
„ all Collectors.
„ the General Officer Commanding, Madras District (with C.L.).
Gazette.

[28rd March 1927]

APPENDIX VI.

[Vide answer to question No. 486 asked by Mr. J. A. Saldanha at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on the 28rd March 1927, page 708 supra.]

I

Statement showing the reserves managed by panchayats under the Forest Village System in South Kanara district

Serial number of Panchayats.	Name of Reserved forest.	Villages constituting each panchayat.	Nature of growth in the forest.
1	{ Sarpanamane Savantagudde Kadike	{ Shirur ... Yedthare ...	Forests mainly of fuel with few or no timber trees.
2	{ Baindur ... Karnigudde	{ Paduvari, Baindur. Yedthare	
3	{ Tenkahola Jakkatmale	{ Belanji .. Hebri ...	Do.
4	{ Jarvathu ...	{ ...	Forest mainly of timber trees.
5	{ Mavinakodlu Malkalgudde	{ Kuohur ...	Forest mainly of fuel with few or no timber trees.
6	Durgamale	{ Durga ... Miyar ... Mudar ...	Do.
7	Todar ...	{ Hosabettu Todar ... Puchamogru	Do.
8	Hosabettu	{ Hosabettu Todar ... Puchamogru	Do.
9	Bellare ...	{ Aryapu Velamogru Balnad	Forest mainly of timber trees.
10	Porkala (portion).	Kankradi ...	Do.

II

Panchayat Agreement.

1. This agreement shall be in force from the 1st day of July 1926 till the 30th June 1927.

Provided nevertheless that it may be renewed for a further period of one year on application therefor by the panchayat to the District Forest Officer of the North Mangalore district for the time being and his agreeing thereto.

2. The panchayat shall work under the orders of the District Forest Officer of the North Mangalore district for the time being.

3. The said District Forest Officer shall have the power to remove any panchayatdar whose conduct makes him in the said District Forest Officer's opinion unfit to remain in office. There is no appeal against the orders of the said District Forest Officer.

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4. The panchayat will ensure that the concession of clearing undergrowth, i.e., growth of unclassified species not above 6 feet in height to a distance of half a mile from the limits of private holdings and removal of green manure leaf from the unclassified trees dead fuel, i.e., parts of dead trees less than 3 inches in diameter and dry leaf and thorns in the reserves, is used to the best advantage of the village community and to this end the panchayat shall—

- (i) prevent wilful damage to standing tree growth in the reserve,
- (ii) prevent fires,
- (iii) prevent quarrying and removal of minor forest produce (except by Government contractors or agents acting under the orders of the District Forest Officer),
- (iv) prevent the cutting of trees and lopping of green leaves from reserved and classified trees for manure or for any other purpose,
- (v) carry out all orders issued to them by the District Forest Officer or by the Range Officer,
- (vi) keep a list of the co-opted panchayatdars.

5. The panchayat shall have the power—

- (i) to regulate the collection and removal of dead wood, green manure leaf of unclassified trees, dry leaf and cutting and taking of thorns for domestic or agricultural purposes,
- (ii) to exclude the cattle of any person who recklessly or mischievously sets fire or otherwise causes damage to the area or who removes tree growth without permission or who disobeys the orders issued by the panchayat in exercise of the powers conferred upon it or who fails to assist the panchayat in carrying out any of the duties assigned to it,
- (iii) to impound the cattle which graze without permit,
- (iv) to report to the District Forest Officer any offences for which prosecution is desired and when it is of opinion that the offence may be compounded to suggest the amount of compounding fees that may be accepted.

6. If the panchayat protects the reserves to the satisfaction of the Conservator for the time being of the circle, it shall be eligible after 30th June 1927 to the refund of half of the grazing revenue collected therein.

7. If the panchayat fails to protect the reserves to the satisfaction of the Conservator or to co-operate with the Forest department, the District Forest Officer may, with the approval of the said Conservator, terminate the agreement and dissolve the panchayat at any time before the expiry of the term of this agreement and may withdraw the concessions granted and thereupon the said Conservator may direct the closure to grazing of all or any of the grazing block or may cancel all or any of the permits issued to the villagers.

8. Should a vacancy occur in the panchayat by reason of death or resignation of any of the persons specified above or from any other cause, the vacancy shall be filled by the panchayat subject to the approval of the District Forest Officer from among the co-opted panchayatdars, a list of whose names should be maintained by the panchayat.

9. The area under panchayat may be inspected by any officer of the Forest Department but no orders will be issued to the panchayat except by the District Forest Officer or the Range Officer.

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APPENDIX VII.

[Vide answer to question No. 489 asked by Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. Patro at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on the 23rd March 1927, page 710 supra.]

G.O. Mis. No. 107, Public, dated 3rd February 1927.

The Government sanction the creation of a temporary post of Special Officer in the Law and Education Secretariat for a period of six months for work connected with the following subjects:—

- (1) the amendment of the Madras Elementary Education Act;
- (2) the amendment of the Madras University Act; and
- (3) the report of the Committee on the reorganization of the Secondary Education.

The post will be held by an Officer of the Indian Educational Service who will draw a special pay of Rs. 150 per mensem in addition to the basic pay and the overseas pay admissible to him in the regular line under schedule I to the Superior Civil Services (Revision of Pay, Passage and Pension) Rules.

2. Mr. R. M. Statham is appointed to the temporary post with effect from the date of taking charge.

3. Further orders will be issued in the Finance Department regarding the provision of funds to meet the cost during the current year.

(By order of the Governor in Council)

A. Y. G. CAMPBELL,
Chief Secretary.

To the Accountant-General, through the Finance Department.

- „ Finance Department with extract of notes.
- „ Law and Education Department.
- „ Director of Public Instruction.
- „ Central Cash Bureau.

APPENDIX VIII.

[Vide answer to question No. 490 asked by Mr. J. Kuppuswami at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on the 23rd March 1927, page 710 supra.]

List of subjects for which stock files are maintained in the several departments of the Secretariat.

Public Department.

Presidency Administration Report.
Government Servants' Conduct Rules.
Holidays.
Civil List.
Communal Representation.
Office Procedure.

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Political Department.

Prince of Arcot.
 Palkonda Pensioners.
 French Pettah.
 Moung Lat—State Prisoner, Parts I and II.
 Acquisition of immovable property by Ruling Chiefs and Notables.
 Tanjore pensioners—Three volumes.
 Commutations of pensions.
 Kandyan pensioners.
 Vellore, Kurnool and Mysore stipendiaries.

Judicial Department.

Pay and allowances of gazetted police officers.
 Pay and allowances of subordinate police officers.
 Armed Reserves and special police forces.
 Railway police.
 General orders relating to police works.
 Arms Act.

Revenue Department.

Land Acquisition.
 Alienation.
 Assignment—Depressed classes.
 Assignment—Military men.
 Assignment—General.
 Military and other Central Government lands.
 Railway lands.
 Jamabandi Reports.
 Tree-tax.
 Land Revenue.
 Famine (General orders).
 Irrigation.
 Railway-affecting tanks (General orders).
 Forest Panchayats (General orders).
 Loans (Takkavi).
 Board of Revenue
 Village officers—Pay and allowances.
 Village officers—Control by proprietors.
 Village officers—Work done for local bodies.
 Village officers—Amendment of legislation.
 Deputy Tahsildars—Appointment.
 Pay and allowances.
 Tombs and cemeteries.
 Buildings.
 Public servants (General orders).
 Court of Wards Act I of 1902.
 Impartible Estates Act II of 1904.
 Deputy Collectors (General orders).
 Laccadives—Inspection Reports and general orders.
 Drugs—Opium, etc.—Rules.
 Abkari (General orders).
 Inams.
 Grants to District Boards.

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Revenue Department—cont.

Agency works.

Survey and Boundaries Act VIII of 1923 and the rules issued under the Act.

Administration Reports of the Survey and Settlement Departments.

Fees to Government Pleaders.

List of Money allowances.

Boundary disputes -(General orders).

Settlement—General orders

Encroachments—General orders.

Escheat.

Yeomials and Pensions.

Finance Department.

Notes relating to subjects discussed at the annual Conference at Delhi of the Financial representatives of the various local Governments.

Provincial contributions to the Central Government.

General questions relating to Commercial concerns.

General orders regarding Public Accounts Committee

General revision of salaries.

General orders relating to Contract contingencies.

General orders relating to financial aid in connection with the expansion of Elementary education

Cochin Harbour Works—Important Government Orders.

Tuticorin Harbour Works—Important Government Orders

Agreements of officers engaged on contract for service in the Government Press and in the Harbour Engineering Department

Madras Port Department—Important General orders

Proceedings of the Finance Committee

General orders on the Budget estimates of each year.

Proceedings of the Public Accounts Committee.

*Development Department.**Agriculture.*

Administration Report.

Agreements of Agricultural Officers.

Agricultural College.

Agricultural Farms

Agricultural Pests and Diseases Act.

Cotton.

Crop Forecasts

Government Gardens and Parks—The Nilgiris.

Indian Cotton Committee—Recommendation—Orders on.

Indian Sugar Committee—Recommendation—Orders on.

Palm disease operations.

Reorganization of the Department.

Special Retrenchment Committee—Recommendations—Orders.

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Co-operation.

Administration report.
By-laws of Co-operative Societies.
Committee on Co-operation—Recommendations—Orders.
Establishment.
Financial Assistance to Co-operative Societies.
Rules under the Co-operative Societies Act.
State loans to Co-operative Societies.

Veterinary.

Administration report.
Important orders issued from time to time on the work and organization of the department.

Industries.

Administration report.
Organization of the department.
Commercial Concerns—
 (a) Kerala Soap Institute.
 (b) Fruit Preserving Institute.
 (c) Ink Factory.
 (d) Industrial Engineering Workshop.
 (e) Government Industrial Institute, Madura
Miscellaneous investigations.
Pumping and boring section.

Fisheries.

Administration report.
Organization of the department.
Cannery.
Inland fisheries.
Pearl and Chank fisheries.
Fish-curing yards.

Mines.

Administration report.
Rules and regulations under the Mines Act.
Mining rules for prospecting and mining.

Factories.

Administration report.
Notifications and rules issued under the Act.
The Madras Factories rules.
The Organization of the department.

Cinchona.

Cinchona and quinine—Important orders.
Papers relating to the price of Madras Quinine.
Papers relating to the fixation of price of quinine and areas of supply.
Papers relating to the cultivation of cinchona.
Administration report.

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Forests.

Administration report.
 Forest panchayats.
 Forest village system.
 Important orders relating to the administration of the Forest Department.
 Papers relating to grass and grazing.
 Papers relating to Standing Forest Advisory Committee.
 Papers relating to the rules issued under the Forest Code.
 Papers relating to the Forest Act and proposals for its amendment.
 Papers relating to the staff and reorganization of the Forest Department.
 Papers regarding Anamalais.
 Seigniorage rates.
 Papers relating to the delegation of powers in the Forest Department.

Local Self-Government Department.

Nil.

Public Works and Labour Department.

Labour.
 Depressed classes.
 Criminal Tribes Settlement (General.)
 Kavali Settlement.
 Siddhapuram Settlement (General).
 Kulasekharapatnam do.
 Aziznagar do.
 Stuartpuram do.
 Salvation Army Girls' School (Nellore).
 Pallavaram and Perambur Settlements and Perambur Industrial School.
 Hydro-Electric Schemes.
 General rules and orders relating to Indian Service of Engineers.
 General rules and orders relating to Madras Engineering Service.
 Allowances.
 Budgets.
 Contracts and agreements.
 Works.
 Cauvery-Mettur Project.
 Mysore Cauvery Arbitration.
 Tank Restoration schemes.
 River Conservancy.
 Railway-affecting tanks.
 Navigation rules.
 Canal telephones.
 Railways.
 Accounts.
 Rents.

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Law and Education Department.

Electoral rules and regulations.
Books and publications.
Papers relating to Legislation.
Standing orders.
Legislative Council Rules.
Procedure in Legislative Council.
Kazis Act.
Extradition.
Administrator-General and Official Trustee.
Cinematograph Act.
Jails.
Poisons Act.
Motor vehicles.
Registration.
Madras Children Act
Andhra University Act.
Madras University Act.
The Madras Educational Rules.
Rules under the Elementary Education Act
